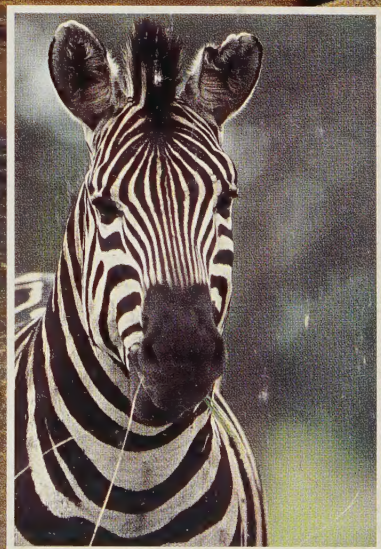
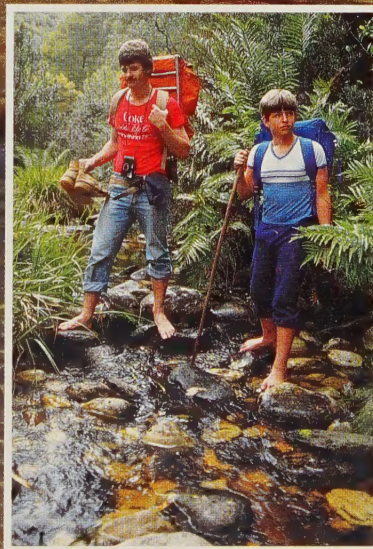
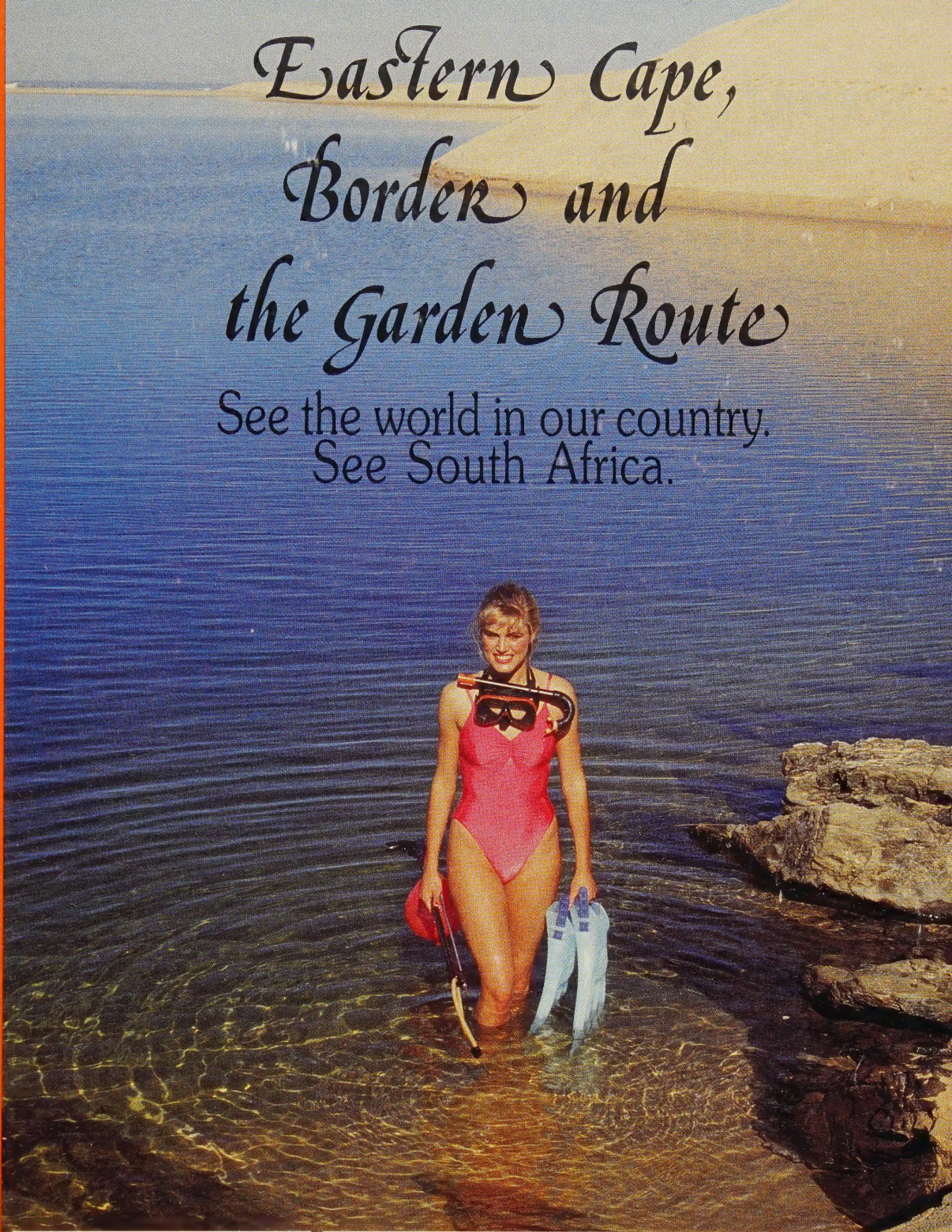


SOUTH AFRICA

*Eastern Cape,  
Border and  
the Garden Route*

See the world in our country.  
See South Africa.



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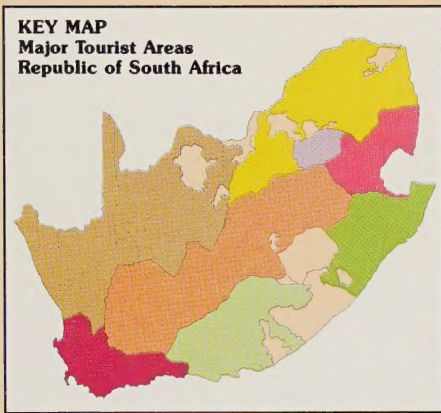
# Touring Areas

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-  Western and Southern Cape
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-  Eastern Cape, Border and The Garden Route
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## NOTE ON CONTENTS

This brochure is not a comprehensive study of the Eastern Cape. Rather it is a travel guide for the use of those in search of insights into an area which offers a rich and varied spectrum to the visitor and holiday maker.

## ACCOMMODATION

For contact addresses and booking details, consult the South African Tourism Board's accommodation guide: 'Where to Stay'.

# Republic of South Africa



# Profile of the Area

G M Elliott Library  
Cincinnati Christian University  
2700 Glenway  
P O Box 04320  
Cincinnati, OH 45204-3200

The Eastern Cape has an extraordinary variety of scenic beauty, rich in dramatic contrasts, ranging from the vast and arid Great Karoo to the verdant Knysna forest country and the fertile agricultural lands of the Little Karoo and the Long Kloof. Besides historic towns, some little changed since the early days of the Cape Colony, it features two of the country's major sea ports and one of the finest stretches of coastline on the continent.

For many, the Garden Route is the highlight of their South African experience. It encompasses bays and beaches, towering cliffs, mountain ranges, forests, rivers and a coastal terrace adorned with magnificent trees and flowering plants. Much of it meanders through the Tsitsikamma area — a haven for naturalists, another Eden for hikers, swimmers and anglers.

Each of the innumerable holiday resorts on the eastern seaboard, from Mossel Bay to Kei Mouth, has its own characteristic charm. A perennial playground for the discerning, the beaches are superlative by any

standards: broad, white and lapped by the mild, invigorating waters of the Indian Ocean.

Settler Country stretches along the coast from Algoa Bay to the mouth of the Great Fish River, and inland for 300 km along the valley. This is the land that in 1820 was the focus of the dreams and aspirations of 4 000 British emigrants, step-children of a jobless society. Today, the graceful scene that meets the traveller's eye belies a turbulent history.

North of Fort Beaufort, a number of charming hostelrys nestle on the wooded slopes and in the valleys of the glorious Amatola Mountains. The crisp highland air, forests, waterfalls, streams — and an all-pervasive sense of peace — are elsewhere encountered only rarely.

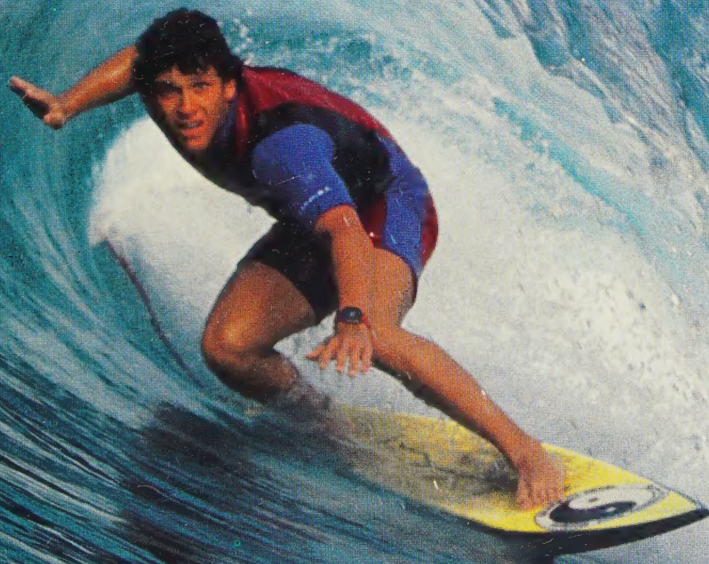
Between Queenstown and the Orange Free State border, motorists travel through some of the most beautiful scenery in the country. The road straddles mountain ranges and traverses valleys, foothills and vast grassy plains. On the green banks of the Orange River, the lands have been transformed into a prolific agricultural

area, but there is much to offer anglers, mountain climbers and nature lovers.

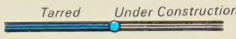
The Little Karoo is demarcated in the north by the Klein and Groot Swartberg and in the south by the Langeberg and Outeniqua ranges. The region's sandstone hills, dotted with olive green shrubs and patches of renosterbush, overlook neat lucerne and tobacco fields and flocks of ostriches.

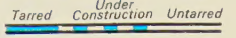
Northwards, on the central plateau, the vast, arid and sparsely populated plateau of the Great Karoo is, for some, the quintessential Africa, its solitary horizons shrouded in mysterious brooding silence, in striking contrast to the lush fertility of the valley of the Long Kloof in the south, its enormous deciduous fruit orchards flanked by majestic mountains and watered by perennial streams.


There is infinite variety in the clean, fresh beauty of this region. Those who experience it, return over and over again to revisit old haunts, to discover new ones, and to add new dimensions to their knowledge and understanding of this incomparable country.

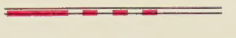


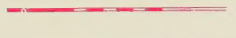
# REFERENCE TO MAPS


Freeways with interchanges 

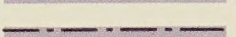
National roads 

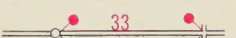
Principal trunk roads 

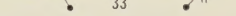
Main roads 

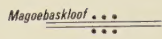
Secondary roads 


Railways 


National boundaries 


Provincial boundaries 


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
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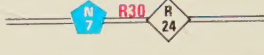
National parks, game and nature reserves 


Height in metres 


Airports 


Places of interest 


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# Port Elizabeth

One of the most commendable attributes of this city is its long-maintained pledge to put people first — a pledge often expressed in spontaneous gestures of friendship, which, in turn, evoke a warm response in citizens such as Johan Eggers, who recently presented a monument to the city.

Situated in the historic heart of the city, in the vicinity of the famous 'padrao' — a replica of the cross erected by the Portuguese navigator, Bartholomew Diaz — the statue commemorates in symbolic form the legendary Prester John and the seafarers who, fired with extraordinary zeal in their search for him, were caught up in maritime expansion eastwards.

In striking contrast to the decision-makers of the past, who were often blind to the discomfort and dangers endured by the early mariners, the City Fathers of Port Elizabeth are determined to enhance the quality of life for all concerned by improving and extending the city's natural resources.

Where the city is shaped by several kloofs and an escarpment overlooking the Baakens River Valley,

enlightenment is apparent in a number of parks and gardens landscaped to suit the natural contours of the topography, some of them given to the cultivation of indigenous flowering plants. Plans are under way to conserve a wider selection of Eastern Province plants in an area where three floral habitats meet — tropical, winter rainfall and Karoo succulents — a move applauded by naturalists, as well as the city's enthusiastic joggers and hikers.

Port Elizabeth is a compact city with an excellent traffic infrastructure, and this means that time spent behind the wheel is kept to a minimum. It also has a more than adequate supply of parking facilities, and the City Fathers have pledged themselves to maintain the status quo. As a result societies of all kinds thrive — pop and classical music, an annual Oratorio Festival, cabaret, summer open-air Shakespearian productions and conventional theatre.

In a 'natural' reclamation of the beaches, the sheltered warm water bay is one of the city's major drawcards. Here, one can sail, swim, dive, surf, paddle and fish all year round, in a

climate where 'warm' is generally accepted as the 'norm'.

Another important factor: don't be misled by Port Elizabeth's 'windy' reputation. It's been blown out of all proportion! Weather reports should by now have exploded the myth that it's windier than any other coastal resort. And remember that this attractive city is rapidly becoming the capital of one of the most delightful coastlines in the country. Yes, you should visit Port Elizabeth — the city which has pledged itself to do everything possible for your comfort and convenience.

## Things to Do and See

(National Monuments indicated by NM)

### Apple Express

One of the few remaining narrow-gauge railway lines in the world. This world-famous steam train, in operation since 1906, runs from Port Elizabeth Station to Loerie in the Long Kloof. Its 283-km track is the longest of South Africa's five narrow-gauge lines. Tourist excursions are run on scheduled dates throughout the year. *Bookings and Information:* SA Railways Main Line Ticket Office, Port Elizabeth Station. Call (041) 520 2360.



WATERSPORTS ARE ALWAYS 'IN'

G.M. ELLIOTT LIBRARY  
Stellenbosch Christian University



THE FAMOUS APPLE EXPRESS



PORT ELIZABETH HAS EXCEPTIONAL PARKS AND GARDENS

### **Campanile**

NM. At the entrance to the docks. Opened in 1923 to commemorate the landing of a group of British immigrants known as the 1820 Settlers. Its 23-bell carillon rings changes on 10 bells daily at 08h32, 13h32 and 18h02. The towering monument, with its 204-step spiral staircase, provides an excellent view of the city. Open weekdays 09h00-13h00 and 14h00-16h00; Wed. and Sat. 08h30-12h30. Closed Sun., Christmas Day, Good Friday, Day of Goodwill and New Year's Day.

### **City Hall and Market Square**

NM. The historic heart of the city, originally a bartering place for district farmers and a rendezvous for local inhabitants. The City Hall was built in 1858, partially destroyed by fire in 1977, and is now fully restored. A replica of the Diaz Cross, originally planted at Kwaaihoek in 1488 by Bartholomew Diaz, stands in front of the building. Besides the City Hall there is a monument to *Prester John*, the legendary king-priest of the Middle Ages, who was sought widely but vainly in Africa. Dedicated to the seafarers who searched for him, the sculpture is in the form of an Ethiopian Coptic cross, like the Portuguese 'padrao' or cross, a symbol of Christianity.

### **Cora Terrace**

NM. Off Bird Street. The terrace, in modest Regency style, was built between 1831 and 1834. The houses are privately owned and fully restored, but closed to the public.

### **Cultural History Museum**

NM. 7 Castle Hill. Oldest substantial dwelling, built in 1827 by the first Colonial Chaplain, the Rev. Francis McClelland. Period furniture, domestic utensils and a notable collection of dolls. Open daily Sun.-Mon. 14h00-17h00; Tues.-Sat. 10h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00. Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday.



LIGHTHOUSE AND DONKIN MEMORIAL

### **Donkin Reserve**

NM. Bounded by Belmont, Donkin, Chapel and Prospect Streets. An open area with a clear view over Algoa Bay, proclaimed a reserve by Sir Rufane Donkin in 1820. *The Pyramid*, a memorial to his wife, Elizabeth, stands next to the lighthouse. There are two inscriptions on the pyramid — moving tributes to Elizabeth, after whom the city is named. The *Lighthouse* features a *Military Museum* (see p.12). No longer in use as a lighthouse, it was built in 1861 and stands beside the pyramid. North of the reserve lie the *Donkin Street Houses*, NM, a row of terrace houses of the early Victorian era. Closed to the public.

### **Drill Hall**

Prospect Hill. Headquarters of Prince Alfred's Guard — the second oldest volunteer regiment in South Africa. An interesting regimental museum at the Drill Hall may be visited with the permission of the regiment's secretary at the Drill Hall, 08h00-16h30 Mon.-Fri.

### **Feather Market Hall**

Close to Market Square opposite the Post Office. Built in 1883 for the storage and auctioning of ostrich feathers. Used today as a venue for exhibitions and other functions.

### **Fort Frederick**

NM. Belmont Terrace. Built in 1799 to protect the Baakens River Mouth,

originally used as a harbour. Open during the day.

### **Industrial Tours and Tours of the Area**

For details consult the Port Elizabeth Publicity Association (see p.10)

### **King George IV Art Gallery & Fine Arts Hall**

Forms the entrance to St George's Park (see p. 8 ) at the Cenotaph. Built in 1927, the complex houses the Main Gallery, the Eleanor Lorimer Hall and the Arts Hall. The gallery is best known for 19th and 20th century British art, as well as a South African collection. Open Mon.-Sat. 08h30-17h00; Sun. 14h00-17h00, public holidays 10h00-12h00 and 14h00-17h00. Closed New Year's Day, Good Friday, Day of the Vow and Christmas Day.

### **Military Museum**

Donkin Reserve, part of the *Lighthouse* (see p. 6 ). Features a fine collection of badges, medals, uniforms and other military items of local interest. Open Mon.-Sun., including public holidays 10h00-16h00. Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday. *Enquiries:* museum attendant.

### **Oceanarium, Snake Park, Tropical House and Museum**

The *Oceanarium* on the seafront at *Humewood* is one of South Africa's major tourist attractions. Dolphins perform entertaining antics in a large



DONKIN STREET TERRACE HOUSES

pool. Seals also contribute to the fun, as do jackass penguins, fish and a variety of other marine creatures. The dolphins' antics may be viewed from a gallery.

The *Snake Park* is renowned for its reptiles. Many species of exotic and indigenous snakes are housed in glass viewing cases. Daily snake handling demonstrations are given by attendants in an open pit. Crocodiles, alligators, lizards, leguaans (iguana) and otters are accommodated in open pits, while colourful parrots survey the scene from special perches.

The *Tropical House* part of the Snake Park, is unique in South Africa. Beautiful birds inhabit an environment in which a path meanders through dense tropical vegetation, past waterfalls, across a stream and around an artificial mountain. An adjoining *Night House* features nocturnal birds and animals in simulated moonlight.

The *Main Museum* offers conducted tours. The *Historical Costume Gallery* exhibits fashions from 1900 to 1940. The *Marine Hall* depicts the marine life of Algoa Bay, and the *Bird Hall* displays dioramas of local birdlife.

Archaeological exhibits include the famous *Boskop Skull* — closely akin to Cro-Magnon man, an ancient form of *Homo Sapiens* — and material from the area in which the skull was excavated. At the *Children's Museum*, young visitors are encouraged to touch the array of open displays of animals.

Visiting hours for all the above: daily 09h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00 except Christmas Day. Dolphin performances: 11h00 and 15h00. Snake handling demonstrations: 10h00, 12h15, 14h30 and 16h15.

#### **Old Grey Institute**

NM. On the west side of the Donkin Reserve. Founded in 1856 by the Governor, Sir George Grey, and still in use as an educational establishment. Closed to the public.

#### **Piet Retief Monument**

Marine Drive, Summerstrand. Erected in memory of the Voortrekker leader on the site of his farm, Strandfontein.

#### **Port Elizabeth Railway Station**

Situated to the north of the Campanile. In use as a station since 1875, the cast-iron structure which supports the roof of the main concourse is typical of railway stations of that era. A nearby restaurant overlooks a meticulously restored part of the station.

#### **St Augustine's Cathedral**

Opposite Opera House, Prospect Hill Street. Built 1866 under the direction of a Catholic priest, Father Murphy, later buried beneath the high altar.

#### **Sterley Cottages**

No. 10 Castle Hill Street was built in 1830 by William Sterley, the town's first gaoler and constable, appointed in 1822. No. 2 was built on land granted

to Henry Jones, a teacher, in 1839. Closed to the public.

#### **St Mary's Collegiate Church**

Next to Public Library, Main Street. Opened 1831 and used as a garrison during the 1834 Frontier War. Rebuilt in similar Victorian Gothic style after a fire in 1896. The church choir, established in 1875, maintains English cathedral standards of music. Open Mon.-Fri. 09h00-17h00.

#### **Upper Hill Street Houses**

Recently restored to their former grandeur, these houses splendidly recapture the residential atmosphere of a century ago. Privately owned and closed to the public, except for a restaurant.

#### **White House**

Near Railway Station and Campanile. One of the best examples of *Art Nouveau* architecture in South Africa. Open during office hours.

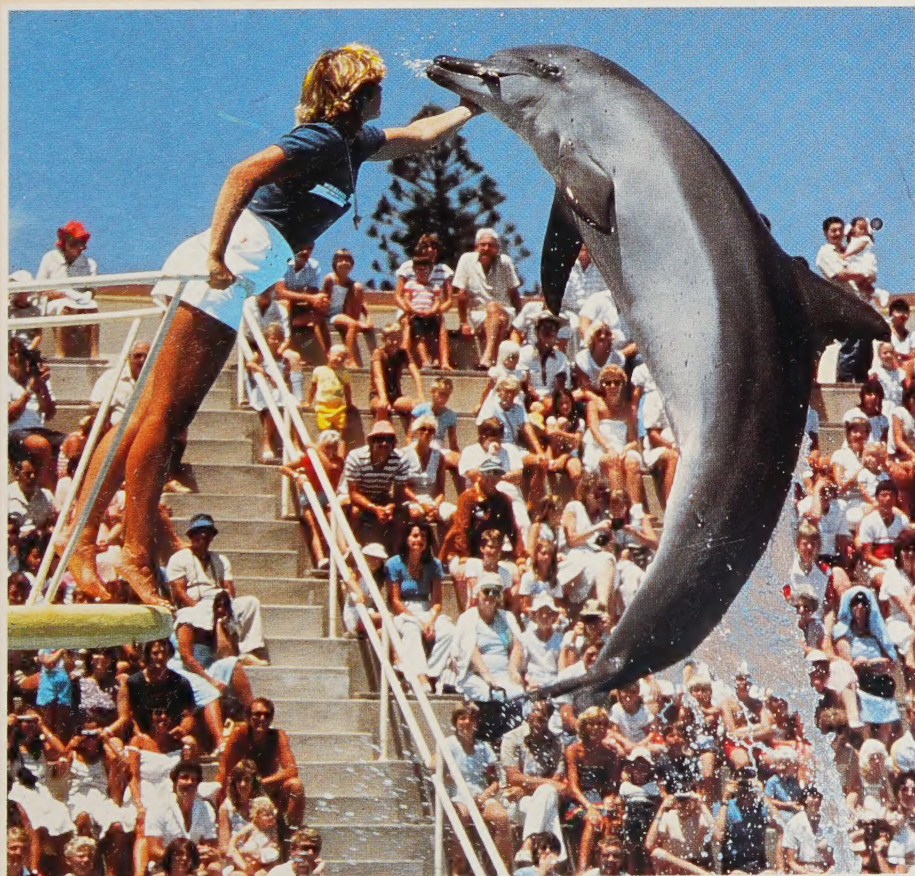
#### **Parks, Gardens and Nature Reserves**

##### **Happy Valley**

At Humewood Beach (see p. 8) a sheltered valley bedecked with gardens, lawns, lily ponds and winding paths. For the benefit of children, the garden features nursery rhyme themes. Particularly beautiful on summer nights when the valley is illuminated in colour. A *Giant Chess Board* provides additional scope for enjoyment. *Enquiries:* Beach Manager's Office at entrance.

##### **Settler's Park Nature Reserve**

How Avenue. Landscaped to enhance the natural assets of the area, this 54-ha park abounds with indigenous flora. There is a magnificent panoramic view of the reserve from the car park at the How Avenue entrance. Motorists may enter at the Third Avenue and Chelmsford Avenue entrances. Paths through the park cross the Baakens River at several places; stepping stones and rustic handrails enable strollers to negotiate the water. The park is fascinating to bird-watchers and naturalists alike.



DOLPHINS DEFY GRAVITY AT THE OCEANARIUM



NURSERY RHYME CHARACTERS, HAPPY VALLEY

## St George's Park

Entrance in Park Drive. 73 ha in extent. Situated on a hill overlooking the city, it accommodates the Port Elizabeth Cricket Club — the oldest in South Africa. The first cricket test was played in 1889 on the main field, and the first rugby test two years later. The oldest bowling green in South Africa, Founders Green, is also in the park. Another feature, the *Pearson Conservatory*, NM, houses a profusion of flowering plants and a superb collection of water lilies. On the first Sunday of every month, an open-air *Art in the Park* exhibition is held next to the St George's Park swimming bath. Arts and crafts are available for sale. At the entrance to the park, the *Cenotaph and Memorial* commemorate the fallen soldiers of Prince Alfred's Guard, a famous local regiment dating back to 1877.

## Sport, Recreation and Excursions

### Beaches

Port Elizabeth has a fine selection of beaches with safe bathing and wide stretches of sand. *King's Beach* extends from the harbour breakwater to Humewood. In addition, King's Beach Complex includes an open-air amphitheatre, facilities for putt-putt golf and a supertube. The *Sea Breeze Express* miniature train provides endless fun for children. The *McArthur Bath Complex* encompasses freshwater and sea water pools and changing facilities for bathers. *Summerstrand* is ideal for sailing, while *Pollok Beach* is popular with body surfers and water-skiers. Although less frequented, Humewood Beach offers excellent swimming opportunities.

### Deep Sea Fishing

Anglers may join deep sea excursions on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays. *Information:* Call (041) 52 4138 or contact the Port Elizabeth Publicity Association (see p.10) for further details.

### Bowls

Visitors welcome at all clubs.

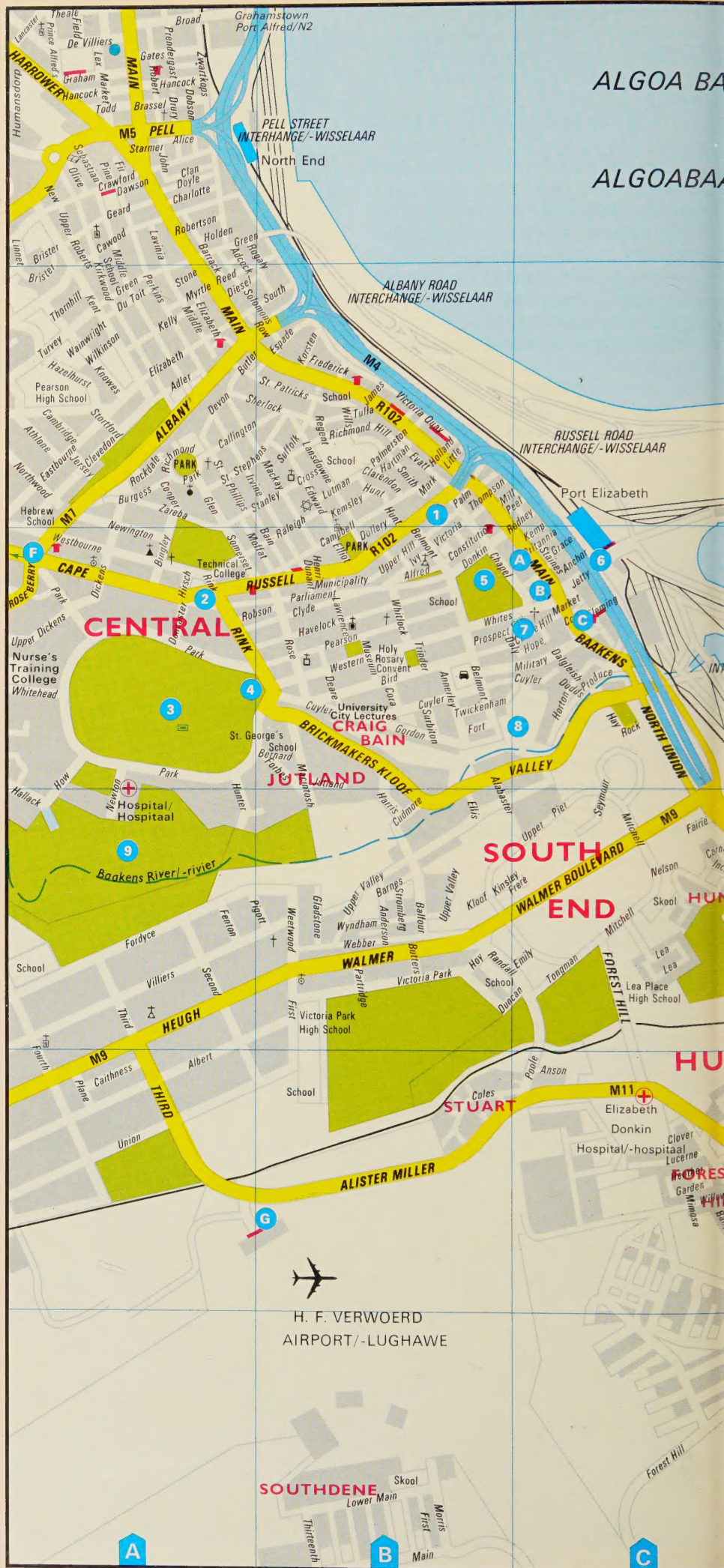
### Golf

Visitors are welcome at the following clubs:

- Humewood Golf Club: call (041) 53 2137/8
- Port Elizabeth Golf Club: call (041) 39 2196
- Wedgewood Country Club: call (041) 72 1212
- Walmer Country Club: call (041) 51 4211

### Hiking Trails

A comprehensive brochure on hiking in and around Port Elizabeth is available from the Port Elizabeth Publicity Association (see p.10).





MAP 2: STREET MAP OF PORT ELIZABETH

- 1 B2 Upper Hill Street Houses
- 2 A3 Horse Memorial
- 3 A3 St. George's Park
- 4 A3 King George IV Art Gallery
- 5 B3 Donkin Reserve
- 6 C3 Campanile
- 7 C3 Old House Museum
- 8 C3 Fort Frederick
- 9 A4 Settler's Park Nature Reserve
- 10 E4 Kings Beach
- 11 E4 MacArthur Bath Complex
- 12 E5 Oceanarium, Snake Park and Tropical House
- 13 E5 Happy Valley Park

- 14 F5 Humewood Beach
- 15 F5 University of Port Elizabeth
- 16 F5 Summerstrand
- 17 F5 Pollok Beach

TOURIST INFORMATION

- A C3 The SA Tourism Board's Port Elizabeth Office
- B C3 Port Elizabeth Publicity Association
- C C3 General Post Office
- D D2 Harbour Passenger Terminals
- E D4 Railway Station (Apple Express)
- F A3 Automobile Association of SA
- G B5 HF Verwoerd Airport



### Ten Pin Bowling

The Greenacres Centre in Ring Street off Cape Road, has a 6-lane bowling alley as well as a 36-hole indoor putting course. Open 09h00 to midnight daily.

### Underwater Sports

*Information:* Call Algoa Bay Diving School at (041) 2 3367 or contact the Port Elizabeth Publicity Association (see p.10).

### Wreck Diving

Port Elizabeth's coastline has been the scene of many shipwrecks — perhaps the most accessible of all historic wrecks found along the South African coast. Those in search of adventure may join a diving expedition and explore them. For further details, consult the Port Elizabeth Publicity Association (see p.10). Divers must have a SAUU (South African Underwater Union) certificate or its equivalent.

### Spectator Sports Venues

St George's Park (see p. 8) hosts national sporting events, including rugby, cricket, bowls and athletics. Major horseraces take place at the Port Elizabeth Turf Club at St Albans Fairview Racecourse, and the St Andrew Racing Club at Arlington. Meetings are held on Saturdays and public holidays on alternate courses.

### Entertainment

#### Restaurants, Night Clubs and Discos

The Port Elizabeth Publicity Association (see p.10) supplies information, free of charge, on facilities in and around Port Elizabeth.

#### Cinemas

Local newspapers publish details of features and venues on a daily basis.

#### Performing Arts

Cape Performing Arts Board (CAPAB) regularly presents ballet, opera, music and drama productions in the newly restored Opera House (NM), Whites Road. Shakespearian productions are performed in the Mannville Open Air Theatre in St George's Park (see p. 8). Independent amateur theatre organisations stage plays throughout the year. Contact the Port Elizabeth Publicity Association (see p.10) or check local newspapers for details.

#### Airport, Station, Bus Terminals and Car-hire Agencies

*HF Verwoerd Airport:* 10 km — less than half an hour's drive from city centre. Signposted. *General Information:* call (041) 51 3601. *Reservations:* call (041) 520 2500 during office hours.

*Port Elizabeth Railway Station:* at the



# In the Vicinity of Port Elizabeth

(National Monuments indicated by NM)

## **Swartkops**

Ten km from city centre, this resort offers 8 km of navigable river for power boats, yachts, canoes and anglers. Home of the *Zwartkops Yacht Club*, which has two public slipways. Rowing boats may be hired from the *Swartkops Rod Club* any day between 08h00-17h00. Weekly boat races are held at *Redhouse*, higher up the river. *Amsterdamhoek*, closest to the river mouth, is a picturesque hamlet much frequented by anglers. Popular beaches in this area stretch from New Brighton Beach to beyond St George's Strand.

## **Uitenhage**

### **Canon Hill Garden**

Black Street. Specialises in succulents and various species of cactus. Commands a fine view of the town. Two memorials commemorate the coronation of King George V and Queen Elizabeth II.

### **City Hall**

Market Street. NM. Built in 1892. Faces Centenary Square, part of the Old Market Square.

### **Cuyler Manor Cultural Museum**

On the Port Elizabeth road, four km from town. An elegant Cape Dutch homestead, built in 1814 for Uitenhage's first landdrost. Exhibits include farming implements, a herb garden and a functioning mill. There is a tea room. Open weekdays 10h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. Sun, public holidays 14h00-17h00.

### **Dutch Reformed Church**

Caledon Street. Built in 1871 along graceful, simple lines. Used today as a church hall.

### **Magennis Park**

Church Street. Noted for its aviaries and beautiful flowers.

### **Old Drostdy Africana Museum**

Caledon Street. Clothing, household utensils and furniture dating from Uitenhage's pioneer era: of special interest, the ceremonial dress of Adriaan van Kervel, Governor of the Cape in 1737, the Bible of De Mist, Governor of the Cape in 1802, and some personal effects which belonged to Landdrost Cuyler during the period 1806-1828. Open weekdays 10h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00.

### **Old Railway Station Museum**

Market Street. Erected to serve the first Uitenhage/Port Elizabeth railway in 1875. Houses valuable railway antiques. Open weekdays 10h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 10h00-12h30; Sat./Sun. 14h00-17h00.

### **Springs Recreation Park and Reserve**

Eight km on the R75. The artesian 'eyes' deliver between three and four million litres of crystal clear water a day. Includes a picnic site, swimming pool, tennis courts and a children's playground. A nature trail follows the contours of the hill crests encircling the reserve.

### **Tourist Informaton**

The Town Clerk  
Town Hall  
PO Box 45  
Uitenhage  
6230  
Call (0422) 2 6011

### **Addo Elephant National Park**

The 8 595-ha Addo Elephant National Park was proclaimed in 1931 to protect the last of the Eastern Cape elephants. The park lies 72 km north



OVER 185 ELEPHANTS INHABIT THE ADDO ELEPHANT PARK



# Settler Country

## How it All Began

England's defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815 was followed by a serious economic recession, unemployment, falling wages and political unrest.

The British administration at the Cape was also experiencing problems. In the region between the Sunday's and Great Fish Rivers, the scattered colonists had come up against the Xhosas who were advancing down the coast. A series of wars were fought as Whites and Blacks competed for land.

In 1817 the Governor of the Cape, Lord Charles Somerset, wrote to Downing Street, advocating an immigration plan to promote stability on the frontier. Once approved, a sum of 50 000 pounds sterling was allocated for its implementation. On paper the plan seemed so attractive that 90 000 people applied. Of these, only about 4 000 were accepted — English, Scots and Welsh. The first ships arrived in Algoa Bay in April 1820.

Most of the Settlers knew little of farming and still less of local conditions. Only after their arrival did they realise why they had been sent to

the war-torn frontier of the Cape Colony. And their presence was not safeguarded by any significant arrangements for their protection. To add to their disillusionment, it soon became apparent that a farm of 100 acres was insufficient to sustain life. Crops failed and cattle were stolen. Those who persevered only established themselves after a struggle lasting about 10 years.

Today there are more than a quarter of a million South Africans related to those 4 000 men, women and children who came to Settler Country to strike a tenuous balance between nature and need. A great deal of what they found and adapted to their way of life has been enhanced and preserved. The landscape, much of it in its pristine state, accommodates the eye in soft and subtle contrasts, and the visitor in search of serenity, besides a glimpse into history, will find much to beguile him.

## Alexandria

Just over 100 km east of Port Elizabeth. Serves a pineapple, chicory and dairy farming area. Before reaching the town, a road to the right

leads through the beautiful indigenous Alexandria State Forest. The grave of the young Xhosa girl, Nongquase is situated on the farm 'Glenshaw', on the Boknes-Alexandria road. In 1856, Nongquase prophesied that if the Xhosas sacrificed all their cattle and crops to the ancestors, the Whites with whom they had been engaged in border wars, would be driven into the sea. The subsequent famine led to death by starvation for over 20 000 Xhosas, and of those who survived, over 40 000 were forced to leave their lands. The military power of their nation was broken forever. A few kilometres west of the town, the *Karel Landman Monument* commemorates the Voortrekker (pioneer) leader who once lived in the district.

## Alexandria Hiking Trail

A two-day, 35-km hike through forest and kranz and along the seashore. Maximum: 12 persons per day. Hikers must provide their own food and equipment. *Information and Reservations:* The Regional Director Eastern Cape Forest Region, Private Bag X7432, King William's Town 5600. Call (0433) 2 3475.

## Boknes and Diaz Cross

The Diaz Cross, some distance off the side of the road leading to the coastal resort of Boknes, is a replica of the stone cross erected by the Portuguese navigator, Bartholomew Diaz, on 12 March 1488. A rough track through a nature reserve gives access to it. Visitors are strongly urged not to disturb the sensitive ecosystem. The Boknes resort offers safe bathing and an unspoilt beach.

## Boesmansriviermond and Kenton-on-Sea

These resorts on the *Boesmans* and *Kariega Rivers* offer excellent surfing, water-skiing, speedboating, sailing and fishing. Glorious beaches, coves and shallow lagoons provide an ideal playground for children. The Boesmans River is navigable by small craft up to 17 km and the Kariega River up to 33 km.

## Port Alfred

Known as Port Kowie and Port Frances during the 19th century, Port Alfred, once a river port, is situated on the banks of the Kowie River. Though shipping ceased some 70 years ago, Port Alfred remains an idyllic place for



FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD



THE CAPE SUGARBIRD INHABITS THE AREA FROM THE CEDARBERG TO THE BUFFALO RIVER



## GRAHAMSTOWN

In January 1812 the Governor of the Cape, Sir John Cradock, decided to adopt stringent measures to stop the destructive raids of the Xhosa people on the homesteads and border posts of the Eastern Frontier. Accordingly he instructed Colonel John Graham to clear the Zuurveld and to restore the boundary to the Great Fish River. Once this was accomplished, Colonel Graham reconnoitred the area and selected an abandoned farm, *De Rietfontein*, as his headquarters.

Called 'Graham's Town', it was no more than a fledgeling settlement when the British Settlers arrived in 1820. The architectural profile they imposed upon it reflected the turbulence of the times: isolated farmhouses appeared as fortresses; public buildings reflected a certain militarism; even simple Georgian townhouses were sturdily built to conform to a generic pattern of uncertainty and endurance. Some of the buildings are still there to remind one of a time when, in the words of seasoned campaigner Harry Smith: 'Men moved like Men.'

Courage and enterprise were typical of the Settlers, many of whom from 1823 onwards left their farms to settle in Grahamstown. With a diversity of skills they transformed what was essentially a military outpost into a thriving trading centre. So successful was this that by 1831, Grahamstown was the centre of the Eastern

Province, and in the Colony as a whole, second only in importance to Cape Town.

Today many appropriate names are used to describe Grahamstown: 'City of Saints' as a token of more than 40 places of worship; 'City of Scholars' signifying a large concentration of schools and the Rhodes University campus, and for equally obvious reasons, 'Settler City'.

The visitor, blessed with the faculty of making happy and unexpected discoveries quite by chance, may well call it 'City of Serendipity'. People, places and a pageant of events staged at Grahamstown's annual National Festival of the Arts, endow it with a unique and irresistible charm.

### Things to Do and See

(National Monuments indicated by NM)

**Albany Museum of Natural History**  
Somerset Street. Founded in 1855, it houses exhibits of fossils, the history of man, South African prehistory, African artefacts, including a collection of African musical instruments, aspects of Xhosa traditional life, and a wildlife gallery for children. Open Tues.-Fri. 09h30-13h00 and 14h00-17h00; Sat./Sun. 14h00-17h00. Hours subject to change: consult the Publicity Association (see p.17). The *Albany Museum* also administers the *1820 Settlers Memorial Museum*, the *Observatory Museum*, *Fort Selwyn* and the *Provost*.

### Anglican Cathedral of St Michael and St George

Church Square. Anglican Cathedral and centre of the Bishop of Grahamstown's diocese. Building began in 1824 and was finally completed in 1952. The spire and bell tower, erected in 1879, 45,7 m high, features the heaviest full ring of eight bells on the African continent. The lectern, pulpit, rood screen and organ are of particular interest, as are the many memorial tablets which relate to the history of Grahamstown as a frontier post.

### Artificer's Square

Cross and Bartholomew Streets. Formerly a square where artisans built houses and workshops. Today privately owned, but facades worth seeing.

### Baptist Chapel

Bartholomew Street. NM. In 1823 founded as the place of worship of the Baptist denomination, today called Chapel House. In 1843 the Baptists built a church in Bathurst Street. NM. Both open during office hours.

### Church Square

The historic facades of the shops on the southern side of Church Square enhance central Grahamstown's 19th century appearance. They have all been declared national monuments.

### City Hall and Settler Memorial Tower

Church Square. In 1870, to



CATHEDRAL OF ST MICHAEL AND ST GEORGE, GRAHAMSTAD

commemorate the golden jubilee of the 1820 Settlers' arrival, the Memorial Tower's foundation stone was laid. Tall and slender, it never became the single memorial originally intended. In 1877 the foundation stone of the City Hall was laid directly behind it and today the two structures form a unit.

#### Commemoration Church

The foundation stone was laid on 10 April 1845, exactly 25 years after the arrival of the first party of British Settlers. A lead casket contains a complete set of coins, examples of the heterogeneous colloquial idiom of the period, and pertinent historic newspaper clippings. The church was completed in 1850 and seats 1 200 people. It contains one of the finest organs in the country, as well as 10 stained glass memorial windows. In the gallery Rolls of Honour record the names of local men who lost their lives in two World Wars.

#### Drostdy Gate

Top end of High Street. NM. Designed in 1835 by Major Selwyn for military purposes on the site originally occupied by Drostdy House, and built by the Royal Engineers in 1841/2. At a later date sentry boxes were added. Today it forms the entrance gate to Rhodes University. Opposite the gate on either side of High Street are two houses, privately owned, built by the Voortrekker (pioneer) leader, Piet Retief, who played an important part in the early development of Grahamstown.

#### 1820 Settlers Monument

Gunfire Hill. Built to commemorate the significant contribution made by the 1820 Settlers to South Africa. Unlike any other monument, this superbly equipped building has been a centre of creative thought and activity since its opening in 1974.

An educational, cultural and conference centre directed by the 1820 Foundation, the monument has two conference halls, a council chamber, theatre, recreational and entertainment

areas and back-up facilities for conferences, festivals, exhibitions and other functions. There is also a snack bar and restaurant.

In the *Memorial Court* the yellowwood sculpture symbolises the on-going contribution of English speaking people to South Africa; the rectangles and diagonals represent the crosses of the British flag; the Christian cross is evident and the strong vertical lines of the sculpture represent striving and growth. At the foot of the sculpture, a millstone and fountain symbolise the staples of life — bread and water. Centrally placed to command a fine view from the galleries above, a series of 24 panels, created by artist Cecil Skotnes, depict in vivid form the life and times of the Settlers.

In late June and early July each year a *National Festival of the Arts* is held at the monument, attracting participants from all over the country. Drama, dance, music, fine arts and a winter school are the main components of the week-long programme, while fringe theatre has become a showcase for spontaneous, dynamic talent.

The *1820 Wild Flower Reserve*, covering most of Gunfire Hill, forms part of the monument site, stretching down to the *1820 Settlers Memorial Museum* (see below).

#### 1820 Settlers Memorial Museum

Somerset Street. Exhibits include the

china, silver and jewellery of late Georgian England, donated by Settler families. Adjacent to these are farm implements and furniture made in the early years of the settlement. Another hall contains a display of firearms and other military memorabilia. There is also an excellent collection of ladies' costumes and accessories. The development of Grahamstown is photographically depicted in the upstairs gallery. The collection of South African art is impressive. Open Tues. to Fri. 09h30-13h00 and 14h00-17h00; Sat./Sun. 14h00-17h00. Hours subject to change. Consult the Publicity Association (see p.17).

#### Fort Selwyn

On Gunfire Hill. NM. Completed in 1836 and used as an artillery barracks until 1868, after which it was used as a magazine and guardhouse. Declared a national monument in 1936, it was restored in 1970.

Inside the fort three ex-naval nine pounder cannons mounted on replicas of wooden garrison carriages date from around 1800. Today the fort is part of the Albany Museum. Open Tues.-Sat. 09h00-16h00; Sun. 12h00-16h00. Hours subject to change; consult the Grahamstown Publicity Association (see p.17).

#### Grahamstown's Oldest Hotel

The Cathcart Arms, among the oldest hotels in South Africa, first opened its doors in 1825. The original deed of sale may be seen in the foyer.



OLD PROVOST, ALBANY MUSEUM



ONE OF THE 1986 GRAHAMSTOWN FESTIVAL FRINGE EVENTS



**JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology**  
Somerset Street. One of the world's most modern ichthyological research centres, named after Prof JLB Smith, who identified and classified the first coelacanth caught near East London in 1938. The institute's coelacanth, the second found in recent history, was caught in 1952 off the Comoro Islands. In the foyer various marine exhibits, including a number relating to the coelacanth, are on view. A guided tour of the institute is given on request. Open weekdays 08h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00. Closed weekends and public holidays. *Information:* call (0461) 2 7124.

**National English Literary Museum**  
Beaufort Street. A research institute containing manuscripts and publications, including volumes of South African literary works. The aim of the museum is to promote a greater awareness of the contribution to the national cultural heritage made by South African English writers and their literature. Open Mon.-Fri. 09h00-12h45 and 14h00-16h45.

#### **Observatory Museum**

Bathurst Street. NM. An attractive 19th century building recently restored by De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd. Contains the ground floor jeweller's shop opened by HC Galpin, who owned the house from 1850 to 1886; one exhibit focuses on Dr WG Atherstone and five others who identified the first big diamond

discovered in South Africa — the famous Hopetown 'Eureka'.

It also features a period display of Victorian furniture, a *Meridian Room* from which astronomical time (Grahamstown's Mean Time) was calculated, and a clock — a miniature of one constructed in 1883 for the Royal Courts of Justice in London. A formal herb garden at the back of the house is planted with a wide variety of culinary and medicinal herbs.

The museum houses the only *Camera Obscura* in South Africa — one of only a few still in operation in the world. In Victorian times a camera obscura was a rare novelty for the rich. It brought movement and colour onto a screen by means of mirrors and a lens in the days when black-and-white photography had just been invented.

The museum, a division of the Albany Museum, is a leading tourist attraction in Grahamstown. Open Mon.-Fri. 09h30-13h00 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 09h30-13h00. Hours subject to change; consult the Publicity Association (see p.17).

#### **Old Provost**

Lucas Avenue. NM. Built in 1835 by the Royal Engineers as a military prison in the form of a quadrant with a double storeyed tower at the apex. Today it forms part of the Albany Museum. Tours arranged by appointment, otherwise closed to the public.

**South African Library for the Blind**  
High Street. Only library of its kind in South Africa, supplying braille books, discs, tapes and cassettes to members throughout the country. Visits by appointment only. Call (0461) 2 7226.

#### **St Patrick's Church**

Hill Street. Built in 1839 by the officers and men of the 28th Inniskillings Regiment. The exterior has a distinct military character in keeping with Grahamstown's frontier town origins.

#### **War Memorial**

High Street at Bathurst intersection. Erected in memory of those who lost their lives during the Anglo Boer War.

#### **Wine Tasting**

Grand Hotel, High Street, site of a hotel for the past 100 years. The largest privately owned cellar in South Africa leads off the off-sales outlet. Open weekdays 09h00-18h00; Sat. 09h00-13h00. Wine tasting: Saturday mornings or by appointment. Enquire at hotel reception for further details.

#### **Sport, Recreation and Excursions**

The town offers extensive sports facilities. Major spectator sports take place at *Rhodes University*. For details consult the Grahamstown Publicity Association (see below).

#### **Thomas Baines Nature Reserve**

Situated 15 km from Grahamstown on the Port Elizabeth road. Entry is from the Salem/Kenton-on Sea road. Established in 1961, and 974 ha in extent, the *Howison's Poort Reservoir* and portions of the northern shores of *Settler's Dam* lie within the reserve. The dam provides opportunities for watersports. White rhino, Cape buffalo, Hartmann's zebra, eland, black wildebeest, impala, bontebok, bushbuck, mountain reedbuck, grey duiker, grysbok and vervet monkeys are found in the reserve. Open daily: 07h00-17h00. No entrance fee.

#### **Tourist Information**

Grahamstown Publicity Association  
Church Square  
Grahamstown  
6140  
Call (0461) 2 3241

#### **Annual Events**

**National Festival of the Arts** —  
June/July  
**National Schools English Festival** —  
June or July

#### **Riebeeck East**

24 km from Grahamstown on the R350. The farmstead, NM, which originally belonged to Voortrekker Piet Retief is situated on the farm *Mooimeisiesfontein*. Signposted. The exterior was recently restored, but the house is closed to the public.



CROSSING THE KAT RIVER

## Salem

13 km on the N2 to Port Elizabeth, a signposted road leads to the historic village of Salem ('peace' in Hebrew). The largest party of Settlers, 344 in all, settled here in 1820, among them a Wesleyan Minister, the Rev. William Shaw, who in 1832 established one of the first Methodist churches in South Africa (NM), which may be visited during the day. Some of the original houses have been restored and may be visited with the permission of the Grahamstown Publicity Association, which also supplies guides of the area.

The church became a fortress during the Frontier Wars when for a while all of Salem's settlers except a Quaker, Richard Gush, went into laager. During one raid Richard Gush approached the Xhosa warriors unarmed and reprimanded them for poaching livestock. Nonplussed, they replied that hunger had driven them to it.

Gush returned to the church and brought them bread, tobacco and pocket knives. The warriors shook hands with him and went away leaving the Settlers' cattle behind. A plaque on a hill overlooking the village commemorates the event.

There are Bushmen paintings in the cliffs overlooking the village.

## Fort Brown

On the R67 to Fort Beaufort, established as a military post in 1817 by Lord Charles Somerset. A fort was built in 1838 to counter attacks during the Frontier Wars. The gun tower and adjoining walls are preserved as a national monument. The R67 traverses part of the *Great Fish River Valley* where *Aloes*, *Euphorbia* and many other succulents thrive. The *Ecce Pass*, built as a military road and known as Queens Road, leads over the Ecce Heights. At the top of the pass is a monument to the great South African pioneer, road engineer and geologist, *Andrew Geddes Bain*, who built this and many other roads in the Cape Province.

### *Andries Vosloo Kudu Reserve*

In the *Great Fish River Valley*, extending from near *Fort Brown* to *Double Drift*. Proclaimed in 1973 to provide sanctuary for kudu and to conserve an area of Valley Bushveld. Open daily 06h00-18h00, but may be temporarily closed during wet weather. No overnight accommodation, but picnic and camping facilities are provided on the banks of the Great Fish River. Apart from kudu, the reserve contains a variety of antelope species, warthog, buffalo, chacma baboons and vervet monkey. Black rhino were recently reintroduced.

Predators include the black-backed jackal and the caracal lynx.

## Fort Beaufort

On the banks of the Kat River. Centre of a rich citrus-producing area known as the *Kat River Valley*. The town began as a military stronghold in 1823. Fort Beaufort is closely associated with the work of road-maker *Andrew Geddes Bain*, who linked the town with Grahamstown, and whose feats as a road engineer changed the history and economy of the Cape. *Information:* the Municipality, call (0435) 3 1136.

### *Historical Museum*

Durban Street. Once an officers' mess, today a museum focusing on the history of the district. It contains collections of firearms, household equipment, early prints, photographs and documents, and paintings by Thomas Baines, South Africa's leading and most prolific artist of the 19th century. Works by L'Ons and a small, unique library pertinent to the history of the area are of particular interest. Open Mon.-Fri. 08h00-12h30 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 08h30-12h45. Closed Sundays.

### *Military Museum and Martello Tower*

Bell Street. Once a military barracks connected to the Martello Tower, the museum displays guns, military uniforms and badges. A square piano from the officers' mess is a unique relic. Open Mon.-Sat. 10h00-16h00; Sun. 13h00-16h00. Closed on Christmas Day and Good Friday. The Martello Tower is believed to be one of the oldest surviving examples of a Corsican pattern of defence, of which there are only two in South Africa, the other being in Simonstown. Permission to visit the tower may be obtained from the museum attendants.

## Adelaide

Named after the wife of King William IV, the town of Adelaide grew out of a military post established on the banks of the Koonap River in 1834. The centre of a wool, mohair, citrus and grain producing region. Shortly before reaching Adelaide, the visitor crosses *Victoria's Bridge*, NM, named after the newly crowned Queen Victoria.

### *Our Heritage Museum*

Built in 1855 as a parsonage, this museum displays the contents of a typical mid-19th century South African home. Among many fine exhibits the *Ash Collection* of glass, porcelain and silver is outstanding. Open Mon.-Fri. 08h00-12h30 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 08h00-12h30 and 15h00-17h00; Sun. 15h00-17h00.

*Information:* The Town Clerk  
Call (04662) 34.

## Bedford

Established in 1854, Bedford lies at the foot of the wooded Kaga Mountains in a renowned stock breeding district. The annual gymkhana, held on the outskirts of town, is a major event on the South African riding calendar. *Information:* The Town Clerk, call (04632) 76.

## Baviaans River Valley

Scots among the 1820 Settlers preferred to remain a separate entity and settled further inland than the others. Their leader, *Thomas Pringle*, led them to a part of the Winterberg known as the Baviaans River Valley, a remote, beautiful area of the territory assigned to the Settlers. 29 km from Bedford on the R344, motorists will find his highland settlement, Glen Lynden, where there are two churches, both national monuments.

On the farm *Eildon*, 24 km further up the valley on the R344, Thomas Pringle built a beehive hut where he lived until 1822 when hard times forced him to move to Cape Town. Thomas Pringle, who championed the press freedom cause, is also remembered for his poetry and prose. In poetry he immortalised the 'umbra tree' (a shepherd's tree, *Boscia oleoides*), which still stands on the site of Pringle's simple home which he called 'Emigrant's Cabin'. NM.

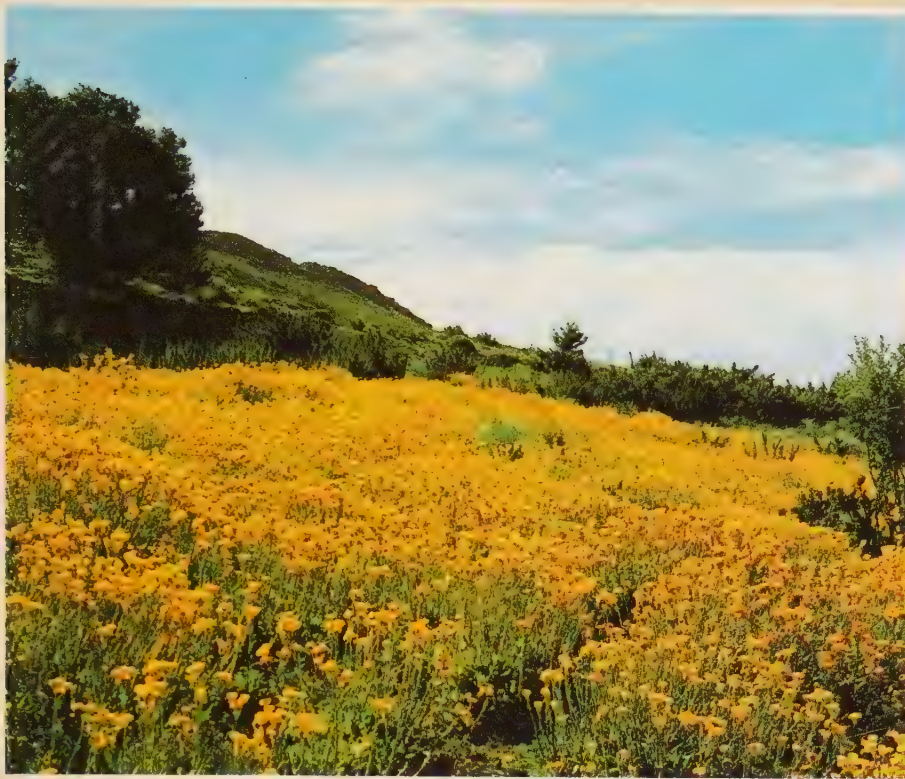
His brother, John Pringle, built a stone church, NM, in 1840 on the farm *Glen Thorn* in the *Macazana Valley*. Since then it has been in constant use as a Presbyterian church. Best reached 26 km along the R344 from Adelaide.

## Somerset East

(See p.35)

### *Tourist Information*

Consult the Grahamstown Publicity Association.  
(See p.35).



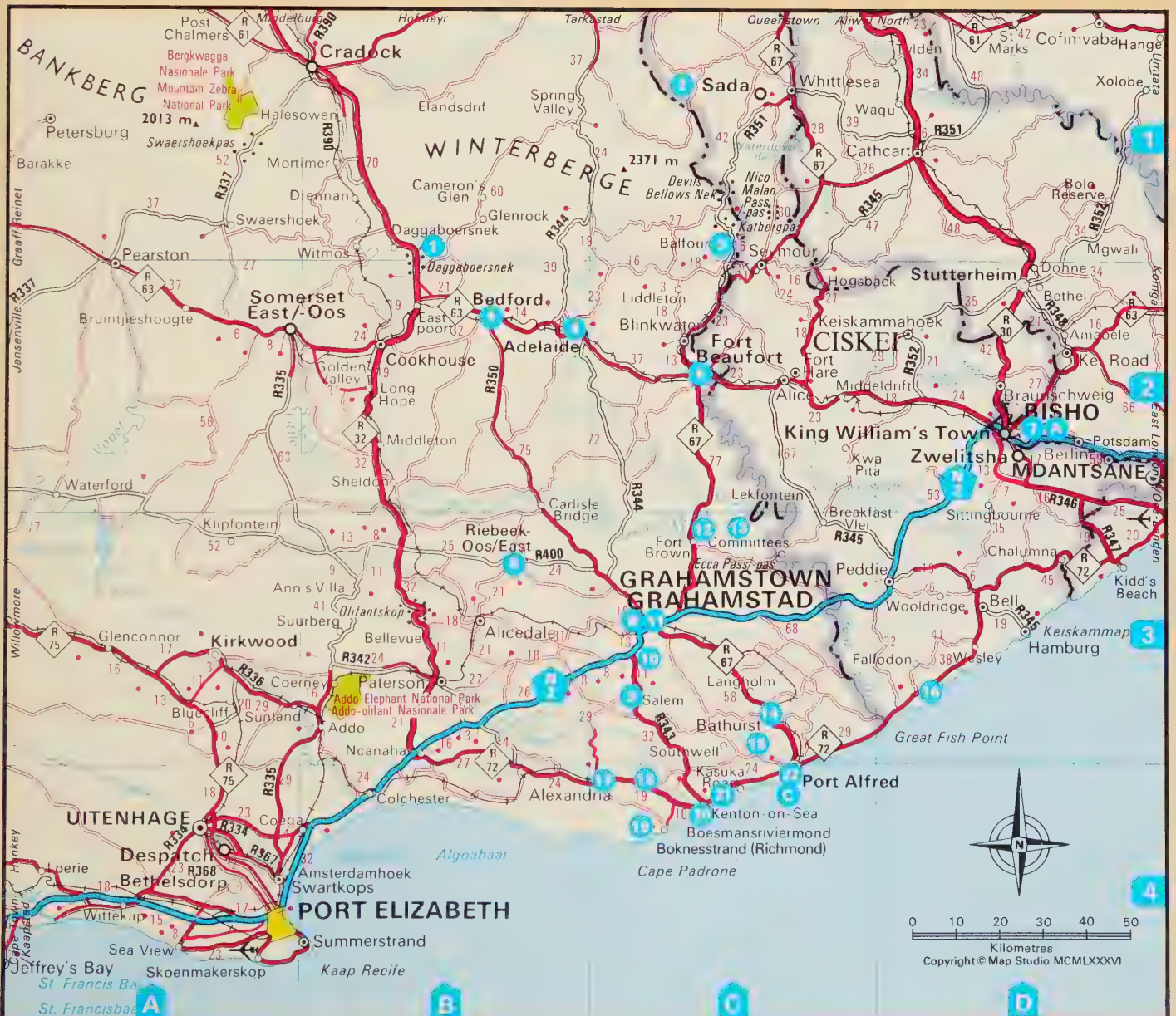
THE SPLENDOR OF SPRING IN THE KATBERG

MAP 3: SETTLER COUNTRY AND CISKEI

- 1 B1 Baviaans River Valley
- 2 C1 Tsolwana Game Reserve
- 3 C1 Katberg
- 4 B2 Bedford
- 5 B2 Adelaide
- 6 C2 Fort Beaufort
- 7 D2 Bisho
- 8 B3 Riebeeck East
- 9 C3 Salem
- 10 C3 Thomas Baines Nature Reserve
- 11 C3 Grahamstown
- 12 C3 Fort Brown
- 13 C3 Andries Vosloo Kudu Reserve
- 14 C3 Bathurst
- 15 C3 Horseshoe Bend
- 16 D3 Mpekweni
- 17 C4 Alexandria
- 18 C4 Boknes
- 19 C4 Diaz Cross
- 20 C4 Bushman's River Mouth
- 21 C4 Kenton on Sea
- 22 C4 Port Alfred

TOURIST INFORMATION

- A D2 Ciskei Tourist Board, Bisho
- B C3 Grahamstown Publicity Association
- C C4 Port Alfred Publicity Association



# Ciskei

For many seasons, fluctuating between peace, war and turmoil, the Great Fish River marked the frontier between primitive Africa and Western civilisation, paganism and Christianity, the explored world and the unknown.

Ciskei (defined as 'this side of the Kei River') lies between the Great Fish and the Kei Rivers, a land of superb scenic vistas which once formed the setting for nine bitter frontier wars. Within an open, undulating, grass-covered downland, massive heights — the Amatola, Winterberg, Katberg and Hogsback — emerge in the centre, covered in a rich growth of forest and bush.

Ciskei received its independence in 1981. Natural and man-made scenery, a pleasant climate and an atmosphere rich in history and legend are some of the assets this independent state has to offer. Visitors may spot wildlife in the *Tsolwana Game Reserve*, enjoy the luxury of superb modern coastal resorts such as *Mpekweni*, relax at the *Katberg Mountain Resort* or gamble at the casino at Bisho, the capital.

The N2 connects Grahamstown with King William's Town and leads through the centre of Ciskei. The coastal R72 connects Port Alfred with East London and offers easy access to the various coastal resorts. Roads

throughout Ciskei are generally good, but visitors should be on the alert for cattle and other animals which may be hazardous to motorists. Extensive hiking trails have been laid out along the coast and in the hinterland within the mountains.

Brochures and detailed information concerning the independent state of Ciskei are obtainable from:

Ciskei Tourist Board  
PO Box 56  
Bisho  
Ciskei  
Call (0401) 9 1131

EXPLORING CISKEI ON HORSEBACK



TRIBAL DANCER, TSOLWANA GAME RESERVE



# The Romantic Coast

Stretching from Kayser's Beach in the south to Kei Mouth in the north, the Romantic Coast with its broad blonde beaches, placid lagoons and rocky promontories is dotted with charming holiday resorts. Accommodation ranges from rondavels to up-market chalets, and whether you choose simplicity, sophistication or something in between, you're sure of a warm welcome, friendly, efficient service and a kaleidoscope of fun in the sun for the family. Swimming, surfing and fishing opportunities are unsurpassed elsewhere in the country, while sports such as horse riding, squash, tennis and billiards are offered by many of the hotels.

## **Kidd's Beach**

Named after Charles Kidd, a former mayor of King William's Town. Popular holiday resort with a sandy beach, rocky shoreline and a tidal pool. Facilities include tennis courts, a bowling green, holiday cottages and caravan parks. *Christmas Rock*, *Kayser's Beach* and *Chalumna Mouth*, in close proximity to Kidd's Beach, are much frequented by fishermen.

## **Blacksmith's and Wheelwright's Shop**

Houses a fine collection of animal-drawn vehicles, besides a complete blacksmith's and wheelwright's shop, and a caravan built to original

specifications. (Viewing by appointment only.) Call (04323) 780 to arrange a visit and obtain directions.

## **Cove Rock and Rockclyffe**

Famous angling venues. At the mouths of the *Igoda* and *Gulu Rivers*, caravan parks and camping sites have been established.

## **Fuller's Bay and Hickman's River**

*Fuller's Beach* has a fine stretch of beach with good fishing spots.

*Hickman's River* offers holiday cottages and a caravan park and is popular for boating, river and sea angling.



## Shelley Beach

A popular resort among fishermen. Amenities include fishermen's bungalows, camping sites and a tea room.

## Beacon Bay

A separate municipality incorporating Bonza Bay. Primarily a residential town renowned for its beautiful gardens and palm-lined main road. Two nature reserves have been established on the banks of the Quenera and Nahoon Rivers. Birdlife in these reserves is exceptional.

## Gonubie Mouth

Popular holiday resort 25 km north of East London. Facilities for bathing, surfing, boating, rock, river and deep sea fishing are available. A special feature is the bird sanctuary on the outskirts of the town. Between Gonubie and Bulugha are a number of interesting picnic, camping and fishing

spots, such as Rainbow Valley, Sunrise-on-Sea and Kwelela Mouth. Queensberry Bay, Krauses Beach, Cinsta and Kefani are unspoilt resorts with a variety of accommodation facilities and ideal angling conditions.

## Gonubie Nature Reserve

Eight hectares in extent, this is the smallest nature reserve in the Cape Province. Large numbers of waterfowl are attracted to several marshes separated from the sea by coastal bush and a low range of hills. Of particular interest is the African Medicinal Plant Garden with its selection of indigenous flora including *Protea simplex* and the blue water-lily (*Nymphaea capensis*).

## Haga Haga

Situated at the foot of two hills, this seaside village offers a fine beach at the river mouth and is notable for good fishing and a wide variety of seashells.

## Morgan's Bay

A holiday resort on a singularly beautiful stretch of coastline. It lies on the south bank of the Nchara River. There are fine walks along the beach and in the area known as Double Mouth, a lagoon formed by two small rivers. The area is famous for its seashells.

## Kei Mouth

A coastal forest and splendid beach frequented particularly by rock fishermen.

## Tourist Information

Consult: the Greater East London Publicity Association. (See p.25). The South African Tourism Board's East London Office. (See back page).



# East London

Situated on one of the most magnificent stretches of coastline on the eastern seaboard, East London's broad white beaches extend for miles — unpolluted, uncrowded and unspoilt. Part of the Romantic Coast, it is favoured by the warmly indulgent waters of the Indian Ocean.

East London has an enviable, equable climate throughout the year, yet the city, with its glorious adjacent countryside, is often overlooked by tourists in their annual lemming-like dash to other Indian Ocean coastal resorts.

Perhaps it is not generally known that the port combines the charm of a relatively small community with all the essential amenities of a large city, including a wealth of facilities for relaxation.

In a city of rich maritime and military associations, East Londoners are justifiably conscious of their heritage. Several fine examples of 19th century architecture enhance the character of the city, reflecting in a tangible way the early beginnings of

Port Rex, as the harbour settlement on the Buffalo River Mouth was originally named. Hyper hi-rise concrete and glass buildings are conspicuous by their rarity.

In East London, you will neither find chaotic traffic snarl-ups nor jostling, overcrowded street pavements. But you most certainly will encounter the good, old-fashioned values of courtesy and hospitality in a friendly environment that encourages breakaways and allows the sun to work its therapy.

## Things to Do and See

(National Monuments indicated by NM)

### Ann Bryant Art Gallery

Off Oxford Street, beteen St Luke's and St Mark's Roads. NM. A lovely example of gracious living dating back to the early 20th century. Houses a fine collection of contemporary and older works. Open weekdays 09h30-17h00; Sat.-Sun. 14h30-17h00.

### Aquarium

On the Esplanade. Although not large, it contains approximately 400 different marine species. Oil-polluted and injured sea creatures are often nursed back to health here before being released. Fish feeding: 10h30 and 15h00 daily. Penguin and seal shows: 11h30 and 15h30 daily. From mid-December to mid-January, additional seal shows are held daily at 10h00.

### City Hall

Waterloo Square, bounded by Oxford, Cambridge, Argyle and Buxton Streets. NM. Victorian Renaissance style of architecture. The foundation stone was laid in 1897. The clock tower commemorates Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee

### East London Museum

Oxford Street. Best known for the famous Coelacanth (*Latimeria chalumnae*) a prehistoric four-legged fish, to which a separate gallery is devoted. Previously believed to have been extinct for 50 million years, the fish was trawled off the Chalumna River near East London in 1938, and was one of the most startling scientific finds of the decade. The museum has a natural history department, a geological section and a children's museum. Three ethnography galleries display aspects of traditional Transkei and Ciskei tribal life. The maritime exhibits depicting the history of East London harbour are particularly interesting, especially the replica of the bronze cannon recently recovered from the wreck of the *Atalyea*. Open weekdays 09h30-17h00 and 09h30-12h00; Sat., Sun. and public holidays 09h30-12h30 and 14h30-16h30.

### East London Railway Station

Cnr Fleet and Station Streets. One of the oldest buildings in East London dating from 1877. The waiting room has served many purposes: church services were held there, debating societies used it as a venue, and in June 1878, 40 couples celebrated Queen Victoria's birthday by dancing there until dawn. On view is the 15-ton 'Stormberg', a steam engine built in Leeds, England, in 1903. It was withdrawn from service in 1951.

### Gately House

Queens Park (see p.24) exit from Caxton Street. One of the first private homes on the East Bank, built by John Gateley, 'Father of East London', in 1878. The house is unique among historical house museums as it is furnished with its original contents. Open Tues.-Sat. 09h30-12h30; Sun. 15h00-16h45.

### **German Settlers Memorial**

Esplanade. Erected in memory of the German Settlers. The first party of German Legionaries, 3 000 in all, arrived in 1857 and a further 1 600 German immigrants arrived in 1858. Sculptured by Lippy Lipschitz and unveiled in 1960.

### **Harbour**

Lieutenant John Baillie surveyed the area in 1835 and on 19 November 1836 Captain Biddulph raised the Union Jack on Signal Hill, overlooking the Buffalo River mouth, giving effect to the emergence of East London, the only river port in South Africa. The *John Baillie Memorial* is situated in the grounds of the Port Captain's Office on Signal Hill. Mounted at the harbour gate in Hely Hutchison Road is a 'dolos' (the Xhosa word for the knucklebones used in divination by witch-doctors). The name has been given to a set of breakwater blocks designed to reduce the damaging effects of stormy seas on harbour walls and coastlines. Constructed here in 1960 by Eric Merrifield and his team, similar breakwaters are now used worldwide. Tours of the harbour are available. Consult the Greater East London Publicity Association (see p.25).

### **Powder Magazine**

Off Strand Street. NM. Part of *Fort Glamorgan*, one of a chain of protective garrisons built in 1848/9. Open office hours. By appointment only. Call (0431) 2 0662.

### **Soffiantini Castle**

A prominent East London landmark overlooking the Nahoon Valley. Built along the lines of an Italian battle castle by an eccentric immigrant, Jean Baptiste Soffiantini. Visitors are not encouraged.

### **St Peter's Church**

High Street. NM. The church was founded in 1857 and the present brick building was built in 1862.

### **War Memorial**

In the Garden of Remembrance, Oxford Street, near the Lukin Road junction. This memorial, resting on a 15 m square base, commemorates the fallen soldiers of World War I.

### **Parks, Gardens and Nature Reserves**

#### **Amalinda Fisheries Station and Nature Reserve**

On the N2 to King William's Town. Signposted. Facilities available for picnics and fishing. Contains southern reedbuck, bushbuck, blue and grey duiker, spotted gannets, grey mongoose and numerous reptiles. Prolific bird life. Open daylight hours. Fishing permits must be obtained in advance. Call (0431) 45 1490.

### **Bridal Drift Dam and Nature Reserve**

25 km outside East London on Mount Coke Road. Facilities available for power boating, yachting, wind-surfing and canoeing. A canoe trail is an ideal way of exploring the river. Canoes may be hired. Nature trails have been laid out and there is an overnight hut. *Information and Bookings:* The Reserve Manager, Department of Environmental and Cultural Affairs, PO Box 984, East London 5200. Call (0431) 2 5424.

### **James Pearce Park**

Off Gleneagles Road. Contains the Parks Department's large nursery gardens and a variety of large trees and shrubs. The East London Kennel Club holds regular dog shows in the park and obedience classes are held weekly.

### **Marina Glen**

Bounded by John Baillie Street and the Eastern Esplanade. A popular picnic area with lawns shaded by trees and shrubs. A tea garden, run by a charity organisation, serves light refreshments. The children's playground includes a *Miniature Railway*. Exhibition of handcrafts, including pottery, every Sunday.

### **Queens Park Botanical Garden and Zoo**

Bounded by Beaconsfield Road and Settlers Way. NM. Covers an area of 34 ha on the hillside between the city

centre and the river. The gardens are attractively laid out with an abundance of indigenous trees and shrubs. The Zoo within the park's boundaries houses a large variety of mammals and reptiles, of which Jackie the bear is perhaps the best known. Feeding starts at 14h00 every day with an attendant on hand to answer questions. The children's zoo and pony-rides are very popular. Open daily 09h00-17h00 from September to April; 09h00-17h30 from May to August.

### **Settlers Park**

Union Avenue. A garden of indigenous plants endemic to the area.

### **Sport, Recreation and Excursions**

#### **Beaches**

East London has a wide selection of beaches. *Eastern Beach*, *Nahoon Beach* and *Orient Beach*, with its theatre complex, offer safe bathing and wide stretches of sand for sun worshippers. The *Nahoon Reef* at Nahoon Beach offers excellent surfing and is used as a venue for international surfing events. For those preferring calmer waters the tidal pool at *Fullers Bay*, or the *Joan Harrison* and *Ruth Belonsky* fresh water swimming pools, provide excellent alternatives.

#### **Deep Sea Fishing and Pleasure Trips**

Pleasure trips are available around the bay as well as deep sea fishing



THE STRELITZIA: INDIGENOUS TO THE AREA



FROLICKING IN THE SURF OFF EAST LONDON



PREHISTORIC EXHIBIT, EAST LONDON MUSEUM



expeditions. Contact the Publicity Association (see p.25) for details.

### **Golf**

Visitors are welcome at the following clubs:

East London Golf Club: call (0431) 5 3350

West Bank Golf Club: call (0431) 2 2768

Alexander Country Club: call (0431) 46 3646

### **Hiking Trails**

Hiking trails and day walks in and around East London have been laid out. For brochures and information, contact the Greater East London Publicity Association (see p.25).

### **Pineapple Trail Tour**

The Greater East London Publicity Association (see p.25) arranges bus tours of interesting places in and around the city. They include visits to the *Agricultural Research Station* where visitors may sample a pineapple/sparkling wine cocktail known as 'fizzannanas'.

### **Spectator Sports Venues**

Major sporting events, such as national and international rugby and cricket matches, take place at the *Jan Smuts and Border Grounds*. Major motor racing events are held at the *Grand Prix Race Track*.

### **Wreck Diving**

East London's coastline, the scene of many shipwrecks, has some of the

most accessible of South Africa's coastal wrecks. Those in search of adventure may join a diving expedition and explore them. For further details, consult the Greater East London Publicity Association (see p.10). Prospective divers must have a SAUU (South African Underwater Union) certificate or its equivalent abroad.

### **Entertainment**

#### **Cinemas**

Local daily newspapers publish full details.

#### **Performing Arts**

The Cape Performing Arts Board (CAPAB) presents ballet, opera, music and drama productions on a regular basis in the *Guild Theatre* in Oxford Street. Independent amateur theatre organisations stage plays throughout the year in the Guild and Orient Theatres. Consult the Greater East London Publicity Association (see p.25) or local newspapers for full details.

#### **Restaurants, Night Clubs and Discos**

The Greater East London Publicity Association (see p.25) supplies information free of charge on facilities in and around East London.

#### **Airport, Station, Bus Terminals and Rent-a-Car**

*Ben Schoeman Airport*: 12 km — less than half an hour's drive from city centre. Signposted. *General*

*Information*: call (0431) 46 1400/44 2535.

*East London Railway Station*: cnr Fleet and Station Streets. For departure/arrival times: call (0431) 44 2020.

*Bus Terminals*: Luxury coach services (day tours or longer) depart/arrive on a regular basis. *Information*: call (0431) 58 9401.

*South African Airways (SAA) Terminal*: Murray Stewart Centre, Terminus Street. Call (0431) 44 2536 during office hours.

*Rent-a-Car*: consult either the telephone directory or your hotel porter.

#### **Climate and Vegetation**

Situated between the summer and winter rainfall belts, the region has a temperate climate. Autumn and winter are particularly pleasant. In East London's parks and gardens, indigenous trees and shrubs, as well as exotic flowering plants, are grown. The crane flower, *Strelitzia reginae*, is indigenous to the area.

#### **How to Get to East London**

South African Airways operate daily flights to and from the city, linking East London with the country's major centres; the service is augmented in peak seasons. Train services operate on a similar basis. Private airlines also maintain scheduled services. National roads or highways link East London with centres throughout the country. Luxury coach services maintain a regular schedule linking East London with the coast, Cape Town and the interior.

#### **Tourist Information**

The Greater East London Publicity Association  
City Hall  
Oxford Street  
PO Box 533  
East London  
5200  
Call (0431) 2 6015  
South African Tourism Board's East London Office: see back page.

#### **Annual Events**

*Mayfair*: April/May  
*East London Expo*: September  
*Pineapple Beauty Queen Competition*: September  
*Oktoberfest*: October  
*Marina Rush*: December  
*Oxford Street Carnival*: December  
*Potjiekos Competition*: December



ANN BRYANT ART GALLERY



BON APPETIT!



HALCYON DAYS

MAP 5: STREET MAP OF EAST LONDON

- 1 A1 Guild Theatre
- 2 A1 East London Museum
- 3 A1 Ann Bryant Art Gallery
- 4 D1 James Pearce Park
- 5 D1 Nahoon Beach
- 6 A2 Amalinda Fisheries Station and Nature Reserve
- 7 B2 Jan Smuts and Border Grounds
- 8 D2 Marina Glen
- 9 D2 Eastern Beach
- 10 A3 Queen's Park Botanical Garden and Zoo
- 11 B3 City Hall
- 12 D3 German Settlers Memorial
- 13 D3 Aquarium

- 14 A4 Bridle Drift Dam and Nature Reserve
  - 15 A4 Gately House
  - 16 A4 Grand Prix Race Track
  - 17 C4 Orient Beach
- TOURIST INFORMATION
- A B3 The SA Tourism Board's East London Office
  - B B3 Greater East London Publicity Association
  - C A4 Ben Schoeman Airport
  - D B3 General Post Office
  - E B3 Automobile Association of SA
  - F B3 Railway Station
  - G B4 Harbour Passenger Terminals



# Transkei

The independent Republic of Transkei is perhaps best known for the Wild Coast — a rugged, unspoilt shore that draws visitors year after year to swim, fish, dive or simply laze within sight of the surf.

The holiday resorts on the Wild Coast are well equipped for recreation, and offer facilities for bowls, golf, surfing, squash, boating and fishing. Among the best known are *Seagulls*, *Mazeppa Bay*, *Kob Inn* and *Umngazi River Bungalows*. The two largest towns on the Wild Coast are *Port St Johns* and *Coffee Bay*. The capital city, Umtata, is centrally placed on the N2 national highway. Many ships, such as the four off Port St Johns, have been wrecked off this coast, some easily visible from the shore.

But Transkei is not only sea, sand and rugged coastline. *Hluleka* and *Dwesa* are two very popular nature reserves where the visitor is

accommodated in log cabins. Here, wilderness trails penetrate through dense bush, and the emphasis is entirely on nature. The most striking form of arts and crafts in Transkei is the Xhosa women's intricate beadwork. Used as adornment, Xhosa beadwork also serves as a means of communication, interpreted according to the patterns and colours used in the design. Pottery, mohair carpets and basketwork reflect a spontaneity, an authenticity all their own.

Transkei has a temperate climate, warm to hot in summer but not humid, cool but not cold in winter. The rainy season is from September to March.

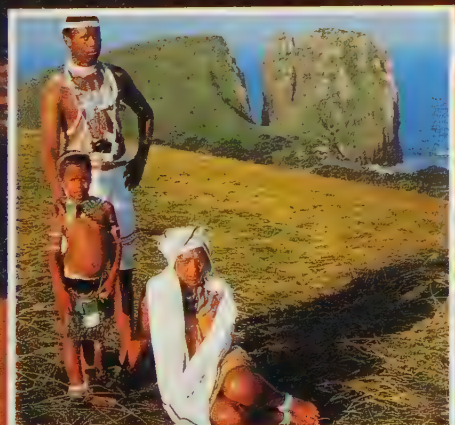
The resorts on the Wild Coast are easily accessible by feeder roads off the N2. They are mostly gravel roads winding their way down towards the coast. Drive with caution because blind rises and curves make these

roads hazardous. Remember: animals have the right of way here. Transkei Airways and Border Air operate daily flights to Umtata and the Wild Coast from Durban, East London and Johannesburg. Consult any travel agency for details.

South African citizens need a valid passport or Identity Document to enter Transkei. Foreign visitors need a visa: Apply to The Secretary of the Interior, Private Bag X5006, Umtata, Republic of Transkei or any Transkeian embassy or consulate in South Africa.

Brochures and detailed information concerning Transkei are obtainable from:  
Dept of Commerce, Industry and

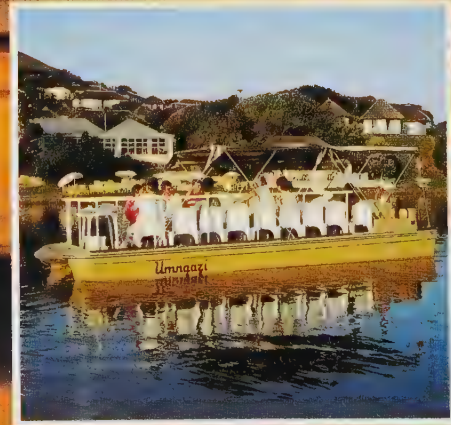
Tourism  
Private Bag X5029  
Umtata  
Republic of Transkei  
Call (0471) 2 5191



ONE OF THE MOST DRAMATIC FEATURES OF THE WILD COAST



THE INTRICATE ART OF MAKING TROUT FLIES



ONE OF TRANSKEI'S POPULAR HOLIDAY HIDEAWAYS

# Border

Although history was responsible for the commonplace name of this narrow frontier area sandwiched between Ciskei and Transkei, its scenic attractions are far from prosaic. Tall forests give way to placid dams and pools, rivers and waterfalls, rolling grassland and soaring mountain peaks. The champagne effervescence in the air and the beauty of the landscape provide the perfect antidote to the accumulated pressures of city life.

## Berlin

Headquarters in 1857 of a military regiment under the command of Lt Col Adolf von Hake. *Lt Count Rudolph von Ronnow's House* and the nearby *Moser's Cottage* in Carolinestrasse have been proclaimed national monuments. Viewing by appointment only. Call (04325) 2319.

## Komga

An agricultural and railway centre. A few km outside Komga on the road to Kei Road, a memorial marks the spot where on 24 December 1877 during the Ninth Frontier War, Major HG Moore won the first Victoria Cross awarded in South Africa.

## King William's Town

Originally established by the London Missionary Society in 1826, King William's Town was founded in 1835 as a military centre for the area between the Keiskamma and Great Kei Rivers. It later became the capital of British Kaffraria.

## Botanical Garden

North Bank of Buffalo River, encompassing trees, shrubs and plants, exotic and indigenous. Often used as a venue for festivals.

## Grey Hospital

Lonsdale Street. NM. A charming old building erected by Sir George Grey in a sylvan setting.

## Holy Trinity Anglican Church

Reserve Road. Built of stone by soldiers of the British Garrison of 1850.

## Kaffrarian Museum

Albert Road. Contains one of the largest collections of African mammals, 25 000 specimens.

Exhibits shed light on the cultural history of the Xhosa, German and English speaking people of this area. These include military uniforms,

Xhosa beadwork, period costumes and household items. A section on anthropology has recently been added. Open weekdays 09h00-12h45 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 09h00-12h45 and Sun. 15h30-17h00.

## King William's Town Library

Alyff Street. Established in 1861; contains a valuable collection of Africana.

## Maclean Square

In a garden setting, the bronze statue of Queen Victoria was erected by public subscription to commemorate her Diamond Jubilee in 1897.

## Old Railway Station

Alexandra Road. NM. Built in 1877 and now occupied by the School Board. Not open to the public.

## Post Office and Magistrate's Court

Alexandra Road. NM. The clock tower and brass tablet are memorials to the Rev. John Brownlee who founded the mission at the site of the town. In front of the building is a memorial to Major-General Henry Timson Lukin, the South African soldier of Delville Wood fame, who spent much of his time in the Border area.

## Residency

Reserve Road. NM. Occupied by Cape Governor Sir Harry Smith in 1847, when he proclaimed the Province of British Kaffraria. Recently restored to its former grandeur. Open 08h00-12h45 and 13h30-16h30.

## South African Missionary Museum

Berkeley Street. NM. Depicts the history of missionaries and their work in Southern Africa. Exhibits include portraits, illustrations of mission stations, printing presses, household items and agricultural implements used by the missionaries. Open weekdays 09h00-12h45 and 14h00-17h00.

## Town Hall

Market Square. The excellent concert hall is used for recitals and stage productions.

## Sport, Recreation and Excursions

King William's Town has rugby and cricket clubs. Facilities for swimming, golf, tennis, bowls and fishing are also available.

## Maden Dam

Twenty-three km from King William's Town on the Stutterheim Road. Stocked with trout. The

surrounding area has been developed and has sheltered picnic sites. A footpath encompasses Maden Dam and leads to the Xhosa Chief, Sandile's Cave. Hikers may also explore the natural forest of the *Evelyn Valley*.

## Rooikrans Dam

Two km from King William's Town on the Stutterheim Road. Site of the King William's Town Yacht Club. Facilities available for all forms of watersport. The largest brown trout hatchery in South Africa is situated nearby. Visitors are welcome any day except Sunday from September to April.

## Tourist Information

The Town Clerk  
King William's Town Municipality  
PO Box 33  
King William's Town  
5600  
Call (0433) 2 3450

## Stutterheim

At the base of the Amatola Mountains, Stutterheim's tranquil atmosphere is enhanced by extensive natural forests, grassy plains, waterfalls and mountains.

## Bethel Church and Bell

On the State Pole Preservation Plant turn off from the main road. Built in 1865, it was the first Lutheran Berlin Mission Station in the Border area. The church bell, standing apart from the church, is uniquely inscribed in Xhosa and German.

## Kologha Hiking Trail

A 34,5 km hike best enjoyed over two days. An overnight hut accommodates 30 people. *Information and Reservations:* Regional Director, Eastern Cape Forest Region, Private Bag X432, King William's Town 5600. Call (0433) 2 3445.

## Sport, Recreation and Excursions

Stutterheim offers facilities for golf, tennis, squash and bowls. Cricket, hockey, rugby, bridge, badminton and pigeon racing facilities are also available.

## Forest Resort

A delightful resort on the Keiskammahoeck Road. Facilities include riding, swimming and trout fishing. Conference facilities are available. Information on the area and maps detailing walking trails in the vicinity may be obtained from reception: call (04362) 324.

### **Gubu Dam**

Continue on Keiskammahoek Road for 16 km. The dam offers ideal opportunities for wind-surfing, boating and fishing. All streams in the Stutterheim area are stocked with trout, and trout fishing seems to be the main sporting activity in this area.

### **Kologha and Kubusi Forests**

On the Keiskammahoek Road via the Eagle's Ridge/Kologha Forest turn off. There are picnic sites, day walks and beautiful waterfalls.

### **Tourist Information**

Call (04362) 383.

### **Hogsback**

Best reached by travelling from *Bisho* to *Alice* and taking the Hogsback turn off. A gravel road, rather treacherous, connects Hogsback with Cathcart. Hogsback is situated in the spectacular Amatola Mountain Range, overlooked on the east by three similar mountain peaks resembling the bristle-backed wild hogs of the forest. Hogsback's charm lies in its mountain air; in country lanes and forests where giant yellowwoods blend with ferns and wild flowers; in waterfalls, mountain streams and singing birds ... the perfect place to get away from it all.

Relics are preserved in places such as *Fort Michell*, *Fort Cox* and *Fort Willshire*. Signposted trails lead to spectacular waterfalls such as *Madonna* and *Child*, *Swallowtail*, *Bridal Veil* and *Kettle Spout*. (Booklets available at the Hogsback Inn.) *Oak Avenue*, a short walk from the village, is a delightful retreat. The trees were planted in the 1880's and the avenue is used for open-air inter-denominational church services at Christmas and Easter, when worshippers sit on logs placed across the thoroughfares. One of the smallest churches in South Africa, the thatched-roofed *St Patricks-on-the-Hill*, was given to the Anglican Diocese of Grahamstown after World War II. Interdenominational services are also held here.

Summer days are calm and pleasantly warm in the Hogsback, and often eerily beautiful as morning mists melt away beneath the sun. Autumn is a time of spectacular colours, crisp days and cool nights. May brings the dramatic starkness of winter, when gloriously sunny days are followed by bracing temperatures at night, and heavy snowfalls may be expected. October is the time of fresh new greenery, and by November the gardens of Hogsback attract admiring visitors from all parts of the country.

Besides three hotels Hogsback offers holiday bungalows and a caravan park in a world apart with an enduring fascination.

### **Cathcart**

Centre of an important cattle and sheep farming district. The main street is a delightful example of late 19th century architecture. Many shops have elaborate iron pillars, 'broekie' lace ironwork, moulded façades and large arched windows. Opposite the hotel is the *Powder Magazine*, built during the Ninth Frontier War. The *Cathcart Museum*, in the restored library building in Main Street, resembles a turn-of-the-century shop. Open 10h00-12h00 weekdays. In common with most towns in the Border area, fishing in the streams is a major pastime.

### **Queenstown**

Known as 'The Queen of the Border', Queenstown is the centre of the cattle and sheep farming district. It could well lay claim to the title 'Rose Capital of South Africa': the annual display is magnificent.

### **Abbot Collection**

Reservoir Road. Comprises mainly car badges, South African War items, clocks, brasswork and the largest collection of old telephones in South Africa. Viewing by appointment only. Call: (0451) 3606 after hours, or the local AA offices (0451) 4008 during office hours.

### **City Hall**

Cathcart Street. NM. A graceful stone building dating from 1882. The clock tower was added in 1897 to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria after whom the town was named. Houses the *Tourist Information Office*.

### **Municipal Art Gallery**

Ebden Street. Houses a collection of South African art. Annually in June, the Queenstown Art Society holds an exhibition of paintings and sculptures by South African artists. Open weekdays 09h00-12h45 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 09h00-12h45; public holidays 14h00-17h00.

### **Penny Lane Art Gallery**

Ebden Street. Studio home of South African artist Dale Elliot. Many of his paintings are on display. Open weekdays 09h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 09h00-12h00.

### **Queenstown and Frontier Museum**

Shepstone Street. Forms part of the Cultural Centre. Permanently on show is a British-built class 5AR steam locomotive in service from 1921 to 1980, used to transport the British Royal Family during their visit to South Africa in 1947. Next to the locomotive is an old stone drinking fountain, a survivor of the Victorian era. A replica of a cottage of the early Frontier days also provides interest.

Open weekdays 09h00-12h45 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 09h00-12h45; Sun. and public holidays 14h00-17h00.

### **Ruth Lock Shell Art Collection**

Lamont Street. An interesting collection of ornaments made of shells. Open during office hours. Closed Sun.

### **Walter Everitt Sunken Garden**

At the East London entrance to the town. The garden has been landscaped with ornamental trees, shrubs and colourful flowerbeds. Ponds attract waterbirds. Facilities include picnic sites and an adjacent Municipal Caravan Park.

### **Sport, Recreation and Excursions**

Queenstown has its own airfield where gliding has become a popular sport. The town boasts one of the best equipped gymnasiums in the country. Facilities for golf, bowls, tennis and swimming are available.

### **Bongola Dam**

Five km out of town on the R396. Situated among fine hills, the dam is Queenstown's main source of water, and has been developed as a recreational area with picnic sites, a clubhouse and a tea room. The *Queenstown Power Boat and Yacht Club* is based at the dam. Apart from water sports, the dam, stocked with black bass and bluegill, offers excellent angling opportunities.

### **J de Lange Game Reserve**

North of the town, approached via Kingsway and Hangklip Road. 700 ha in extent on the slopes of the Madeira Mountain commanding a superb view of Queenstown and surrounding area. The park contains a variety of smaller antelopes, including springbok.

Indigenous plant life is varied and interesting. Peculiar to the area is the tamboetie thorn, *Erythrina acanthocarpa*, also known as the 'wag'n-bietjie doring'. In summer it is covered with red and yellow flowers and in winter the red-orange *Aloe ferrox* is in full bloom. Picnic facilities available.

### **Tourist Information**

The Town Clerk  
Queenstown Municipality  
PO Box 22  
Queenstown  
5320  
Call (0451) 3131

Outside Queenstown in the independent Republic of Transkei is the *Xhosa Carpet Factory* where Persian designed carpets are made. Call (0451) 3437 for directions. Open weekdays 08h00-17h00.

# North-Eastern Cape

(National Monuments indicated by NM).

## Tarkastad

A sheep farming centre and terminus of the branch railway line to Queenstown, Tarkastad is situated on a plain to the north of the Winterberg Range.

## Molteno

The new *Molteno Dam* with its fascinating birdlife provides up river boating for 7 km.

## Elliot

Set against the beautiful backdrop of the Drakensberg mountain range. On the crest of a series of foothills, strange red sandstone formations (the *Twelve Apostles*) are particularly impressive at dawn and sunset when the sun colours them a deep orange.

The town offers facilities for bowls, tennis, squash and golf. There are watersport facilities and picnic sites at the *Thompson Dam* on the R56. The *Gilli Cullum Waterfall and Hiking Trail* are particularly beautiful. For directions, enquire at the hotel.

Outside Elliot on the R58, there is a turn off to the *Bastervoetpad*, a gravel road originally used by Griquas. The

road leads to a view-site, spectacular on a clear day, but should be avoided in wet weather. Further along the R58 is a farm, *Denorbin*, where the longest known gallery of Bushman paintings in South Africa may be viewed — by appointment only. Call (045312) 1322 for directions and an appointment.

On the R56, clearly visible from the road between *Ugie* and *Elliot*, the mountain *Gatberg* reveals a concentric hole, much as if a giant had hurled a massive boulder through it.

## Maclear

Facilities for tennis, golf, trout fishing and the venue for annual national gymkhanas. In its vicinity there are beautiful day walks, Bushman paintings, and hiking trails where hikers may spend the night in caves. Brochures available from the Municipal Offices or call (045322) 25. On the *David Aucamp* and *Maclear Dams* watersports are popular.

The Transkei road leads to the magnificent *Tsitsa Waterfall*, some 25 km from Maclear (signposted). It is said that cattle thieves once drove stolen cattle across the Transkei border by herding them behind the waterfall — a feat scarcely credible

when the falls are in flood.

## Naudes Nek Pass

The scenic gravel drive over the highest mountain pass in South Africa offers stunning views, but is treacherous in wet weather. On the Rhodes side at the bottom of the pass, there is a memorial to the Naude brothers who built the pass in 1896, using only a horse<sup>2</sup>-drawn cart, picks and shovels after following a route over the mountain picked out instinctively by their horses.

## Rhodes

A village housing a few permanent families and a seasonal inflow of artists. The streets are lined with quaint old cottages, and the school, no longer in use, was designed by Sir Herbert Baker. The hotel, with its typical Victorian design, recently restored, has intriguing links with the past. Its home-cooked meals enhance one's enjoyment of this idyllic winter holiday retreat. When the snow is metres deep, the slopes of *Ben Macdhui* (3 001 m high) are alive with skiers taken there by four-wheel-drive vehicles and a ski-lift to the starting point. Trout fishing, riding and hiking are popular in the area, and in season, partridge shooting may be arranged.

Some visit Rhodes in search of serenity, to breathe the crisp fresh air and to meander through the peaceful countryside.

## Barkly East

One of the highest towns in the country, Barkly East (1 813 m above sea level) nestles in the western foothills of the Drakensberg, and is an exceptionally popular trout fishing area. In March each year a trout festival is held here which attracts fishermen from all parts of South Africa.

The beautiful *Barkly Pass* links Barkly East with Elliot. The railway line between Barkly East and Lady Grey is unique in the world, because in order to descend the steep gradient it has to negotiate eight reverses — a novelty even to the most seasoned traveller. Special passenger trains run by prior arrangement. *Information:* Call the Town Clerk, Aliwal North (see p.31).

## Lady Grey

About 60 km east of Aliwal North and 75 km from Barkly East, the town is spectacularly situated between the *Witteberg Peak* to the north and



VILLAGE CHURCH, LADY GREY

*Spioenkop* to the south, and is particularly beautiful after snow. North of the town a scenically rewarding drive meanders through wooded country to the reservoir at the head of the gorge. The area around the dam is a nature reserve, and the steep (but negotiable) walk up the mountainside to the view-site overlooking the dam is well worth the effort.

### **Aliwal North**

Situated on the south bank of the Orange River, which forms the border between the Orange Free State and the Cape Province. The town was founded in 1849 by Governor Sir Harry Smith, who named it in commemoration of his victory at Aliwal in India. The town is an exceptionally popular health resort on account of the hot springs.

### **Aliwal Spa**

De Wet Ave. One of South Africa's best known mineral spas. Curative properties are attributed to the waters and, not surprisingly, the town is a magnet for sufferers from rheumatism, arthritis and related ailments. An indoor swimming pool fed by the main spring has a temperature of 35 degrees Celcius, with a consistent daily flow of some 2 000 000 litres of water. The spa is surrounded by attractive parks and gardens and the complex comprises four outdoor swimming pools, two paddling pools for children, an oval pool built on one of the original springs, an L-shaped Olympic-sized pool and two indoor pools as well as a waterslide for children. The biokinetic centre has a qualified biokinetic assistant in attendance. Open Sept.-Apr. 07h00-19h00, Dec. 06h00-22h00 and May-Aug. 08h00-17h00. *Further Information:* call (0551) 2951.

### **Garden of Remembrance and Blockhouse**

Barkly Street. Situated next to the entrance to the Buffelspruit Game Reserve (see above), it offers a panoramic view of the town and game reserve. This monument was erected in honour of British and Colonial soldiers who died during the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). The blockhouse, NM, was erected in 1901 by Lord Kitchener to protect the rail link between the coast and the interior.

### **Juana Square Gardens**

Collins Street. Named after Sir Harry Smith's Spanish wife. Originally laid out in 1900 with rare and beautiful trees, some of which still stand today.

### **Sport, Recreation and Excursions**

Facilities for golf, tennis, bowls and freshwater fishing, and indoor facilities

for squash, volleyball and badminton.

### **Buffelspruit Game Reserve**

Barkly Street. This reserve on the banks of the Kraai River has picnic facilities but no accommodation. Various antelope species may be seen, as well as zebra, black wildebeest and ostrich. Open daily 08h00-17h00.

### **Bushman Paintings**

Bus tours to Bushman paintings in the surrounding area: call (0551) 2123.

### **Cheese Factory**

One of the largest creameries in the country. Visitors welcome between 09h00 and 10h00 daily except Sundays. Call (0551) 2043 during office hours for an appointment and directions.

### **Wheat Mill**

Guided tours through the large wheat mill on the outskirts of town may be arranged. Call (0551) 2481.

### **Tourist Information**

Information Office

Public Library

Somerset Street

Aliwal North

5530

Call (0551) 2362

### **Burgersdorp**

This historic town, the oldest in the north-eastern Cape, founded in 1846, is the administrative and trading centre for a wool and livestock farming area.

### **Burgersdorp Museum and Jan Lion-Cachet's Parsonage**

Piet Retief St. Contains interesting

historical items, including some personal belongings of Prof. Lion-Cachet, Josef Henning's firearm collection, period dresses, bedroom furniture and kitchen utensils. There is also an Afrikaans Language Room. Open weekdays 08h00-17h00; Sat. on request.

### **Language Monument**

Burger Square. Two similar monuments stand side by side, in commemoration of the official recognition of the Dutch language by the Cape Parliament.

### **Sentinel (Brandwag)**

On the R58 at the entrance to the town. NM. A stone blockhouse formed part of the military system which Lord Kitchener introduced when he took charge of the British forces in 1901.

### **Victoria Jubileum Fountain**

Burger Square. One of only five similar fountains in the world, built to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. The only one in South Africa.

### **Sport, Recreation and Excursions**

Burgersdorp has facilities for bowls, golf, tennis and swimming. The *J L de Bruin Dam*, beyond the town's boundaries, offers ideal opportunities for angling, boating, water-skiing and wind-surfing. Amenities include a caravan park, camping sites and indoor squash, table tennis and darts facilities.



BARKLY PASS LINKS BARKLY EAST WITH ELLIOT

### Burgersdorp Game Reserve

East of the town on the R391. Some 500 ha in extent, it offers a variety of small game, including springbok, zebra, blesbok, kudu, black wildebeest, hartebees, rhebok and steenbok. A pleasant four-hour hike through the reserve may be undertaken. Contact the Burgersdorp Publicity Association (see below) for details.

### Tourist Information

Burgersdorp Municipality  
PO Box 13  
Burgersdorp  
5520  
Call (055312) 149

### Venterstad

A caravan park is conveniently situated for those wanting to enjoy watersports at the *Hendrik Verwoerd Dam*.

### Hendrik Verwoerd Dam

This irregularly shaped man-made lake

is more than 100 km long and 15 km wide. It forms part of the gigantic *Orange River Scheme* and is an impressive engineering achievement. The scheme involved the construction of the huge *P K le Roux Dam* downstream and two tunnels, one 82 km long connecting the Orange and the Fish Rivers, and the other 58 km long connecting the Fish and the Sundays Rivers. The Hendrik Verwoerd Dam forms the border between the Orange Free State and the Cape Province. Facilities are available at *Oviston* for camping, caravanning and picnicking. Bungalows, cottages and holiday flats are also available. All forms of watersport may be enjoyed.  
**Information:** call (055332) 71.

### Tourist Information

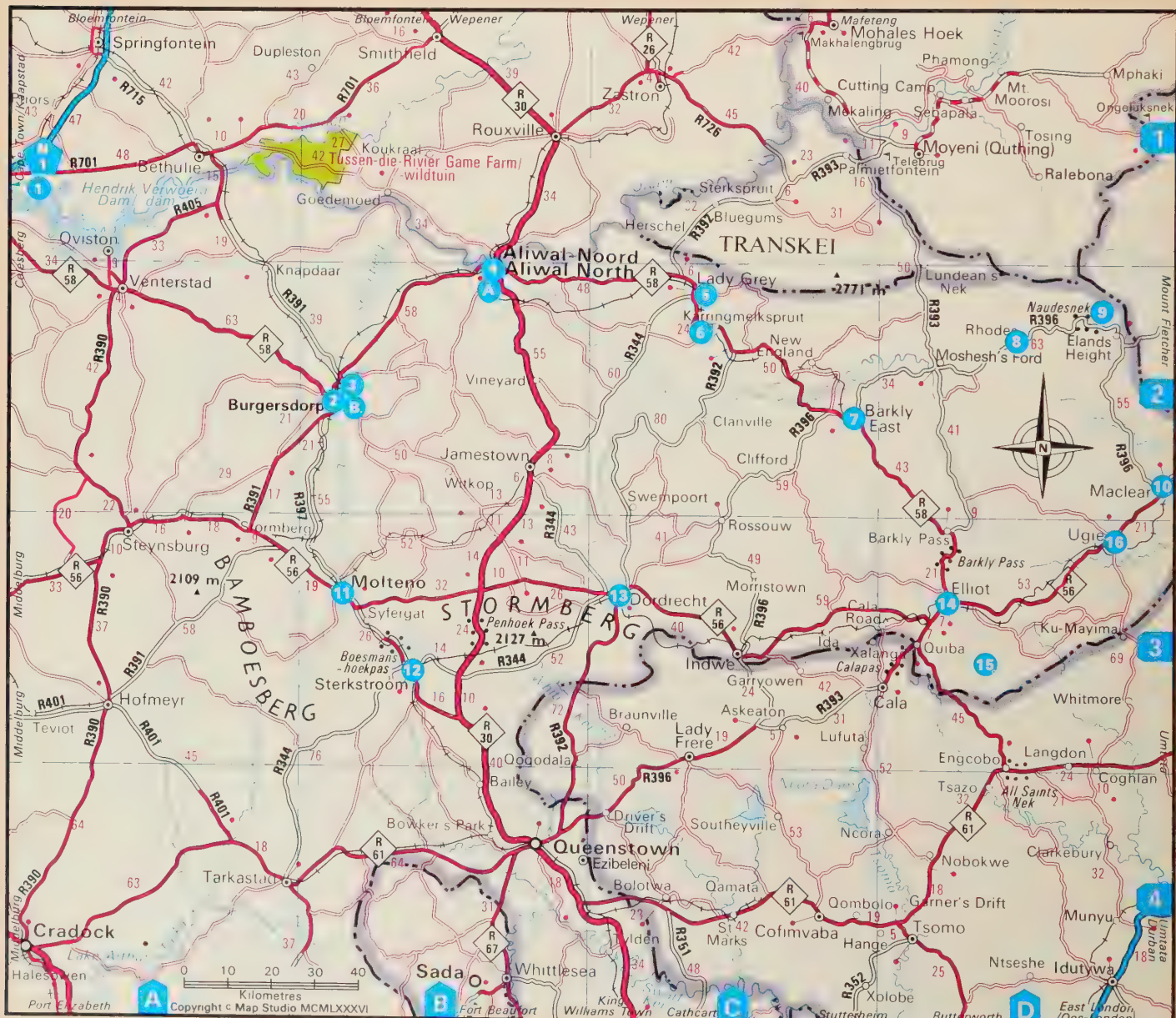
Consult: The Greater East London Publicity Association (see p.25). The South African Tourism Board's East London Office (See back page.)

MAP 6: NORTH-EASTERN CAPE

- |    |    |                          |
|----|----|--------------------------|
| 1  | A1 | Hendrik Verwoerd Dam     |
| 2  | B2 | Burgersdorp              |
| 3  | B2 | Burgersdorp Game Reserve |
| 4  | B2 | Aliwal North             |
| 5  | C2 | Lady Grey                |
| 6  | C2 | Reverse Railway Line     |
| 7  | C2 | Barkly East              |
| 8  | D2 | Rhodes                   |
| 9  | D2 | Naude's Nek Pass         |
| 10 | D2 | Maclear                  |
| 11 | B3 | Molteno                  |
| 12 | B3 | Sterkstroom              |
| 13 | C3 | Dordrecht                |
| 14 | D3 | Elliot                   |
| 15 | D3 | Gillie Cullum Waterfall  |
| 16 | D3 | Ugie                     |

### TOURIST INFORMATION

- |   |    |                                   |
|---|----|-----------------------------------|
| A | B2 | Aliwal North Information Office   |
| B | B2 | Burgersdorp Publicity Association |





# The Karoo

Much of the Eastern Cape is Great Karoo country — a vast upland dotted with farms, villages and towns, flat-topped hills and small aromatic bushes. The air is crystal clear, giving rise to spectacular sunsets, and at night the skies are brilliantly lit by a super-abundance of stars. Wild flowers burst into bloom in spring to create an irregular floral-patterned carpet, filling the air with sweet and spicy scents.

Springbok bound with indescribable grace over the scrubland, while the beautifully marked meerkat lolls lazily in the sun, sitting up occasionally with avid curiosity to survey the passing show. Another creature which makes its home on the high plateau is the gnu (black wildebeest). Ostriches also inhabit the area, and in summer, huge numbers of European storks migrate to the Karoo to feast on locusts.

The Mountain Zebra National Park, high on the northern slopes of the Bankberg range, provides sanctuary for survivors of the great herds of plains game which once roamed free over the lands.

The Karoo is sheep farming country on a grand scale. The combination of natural herbs, succulents and shrubs

produces mutton which is renowned world-wide for its tenderness and flavour.

The great brooding silence and space of the Karoo have a unique appeal to which many respond with a profound commitment.

(National Monuments indicated by NM).

## **Middelburg**

Middelburg lies in mountainous country on the banks of the Little Brak River in a rich sheep farming district. *Grootfontein Homestead* contains a museum depicting the early days of South African agriculture. Viewing by appointment. Call (0483) 2 2005. In the centre of town there is a *Historic Shop*, typical of the turn of the century. Open during normal trading hours.

## **Hofmeyr**

Lies at the centre of an important sheep farming district. There are several old buildings of cultural and historical importance, as well as a museum. Viewing by appointment only. Call (04852) 138.

## **Cradock**

Like many frontier towns, Cradock

began as a military outpost and evolved into a spacious country town with considerable charm and character.

***Dutch Reformed Mother Church***  
Stockenroom Street. Built in 1868; a replica of St Martins-in-the-Field, London, and one of the finest examples of its kind in South Africa.

***Great Fish River Museum***  
Hoog Street. NM. Housed in the oldest Dutch Reformed Parsonage in the Eastern Cape. Depicts life in the *Great Fish River Valley* between 1825 and 1925. Includes relics of the British Settlers, the Voortrekkers (pioneers) and the Victorian era. Open Tues.-Sat. 09h00-12h00 and 14h00-15h00.

***Municipal Library***  
Cnr Church and Stockenroom Streets. Second oldest library in South Africa. Houses an extensive collection of Africana, the oldest example dating back to the 17th century. A fine *Olive Schreiner Book Collection* contains memorabilia relating to the celebrated South African author. Open weekdays 08h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 09h00-12h30.



VALLEY OF DESOLATION, GRAAFF-REINET

### **Olive Schreiner House**

Kruis Street. NM. The house in which Olive Schreiner spent some of her formative years has recently been restored, shedding light on the life and writing of this great writer. In 1874, when she was only 19, she was employed as a governess on a farm near Cradock. The Karoo provided the backdrop for her literary masterpiece, *The Story of an African Farm*, which she wrote at night in the primitive conditions of a farm outhouse. She was buried on the summit of *Buffels Kop*, south of town. Open during office hours.

### **Quercus Ilex Tree**

Dundas Street. A huge species of oak reputed to be the oldest of its kind in the world.

### **Van Riebeeck Karoo Garden**

Stockentroom Street next to the Dutch Reformed Church. A peaceful garden in the centre of town with indigenous Karoo vegetation.

### **Sport, Recreation and Excursions**

Cradock has a modern sports complex with two rugby fields, two cricket fields, an athletic track, netball fields, tennis courts, a swimming pool and jukskei pitches. The 18-hole Cradock Golf Club was founded in 1899. Squash courts also available.

### **Karoo Sulphur Springs**

4 km outside of town on the R32. A well patronised curative resort with

alkaline springs and some of the most popular recreational facilities in Cradock. Rondavels, chalets, a caravan park and picnic facilities are available. Hiking trails have been laid out in and within the vicinity of the resort. *Consult the Information Bureau* (see below).

### **Lake Arthur**

On the R61. Opportunities for watersport enthusiasts. Facilities for picnicking, camping and launching boats.

### **Tourist Information**

The Town Clerk  
PO Box 24  
Cradock  
5880  
Call (0481) 2108

### **Mountain Zebra National Park**

Set in an amphitheatre on the northern slopes of the Bankberg, the park is 24 km south-west of Cradock, 6 535 ha in extent and 1 300 m above sea-level.

The park was proclaimed in 1937 to ensure the survival of the Cape mountain zebra, a species quite distinct from Burchell's Zebra. Whereas in 1964 there were no more than 25 of these animals, today there are more than 200.

### **Climate**

Summer days are warm with sporadic rain in winter and early spring. Winter

days are sunny, but nights cold, with temperatures falling as low as -10 degrees Celsius. Snowfalls sometimes occur in winter, particularly on the heights.

### **Fauna**

In addition to mountain zebra, large herds of eland, springbok, blesbok and black wildebeest inhabit the high plateaus, as well as species such as kudu, duiker, steenbok and red hartebeest.

Carnivores include caracal, the African wild cat and the vicious little black-footed cat, black-backed jackal, bat-eared fox, Cape fox and aardwolf.

Black eagles swoop among rocky crags and crevices in search of dassies (rock rabbits). Other raptors include the booted eagle, the Cape eagle owl and the chanting goshawk. Waterbirds such as the avocet, African spoonbill and blue crane congregate in damp areas.

### **Vegetation**

Vegetation is unique and differs from the surrounding, less mountainous areas. Thick patches of sweet-thorn (*Acacia karroo*) occur, together with various karee species, particularly along the Wilgerboom River and the streams. High in the ravines, dense groves of wild olive (*Olea africana*) are found.

### **Accommodation**

Overnight facilities consist of 18 luxury two-bedroomed chalets (five



A SPECIES WHOSE SURVIVAL IS ENSURED



THE METICULOUSLY RESTORED FARMHOUSE, MOUNTAIN ZEBRA NATIONAL PARK



HUTTED ACCOMMODATION FOR HIKERS IN THE PARK

beds) and a fully equipped kitchen. Bedding and towels are supplied, and each chalet has barbecue facilities. 'Doornhoek', a meticulously restored reproduction of a Karoo farmhouse in Victorian times, accommodates six people. The caravan park provides all necessary facilities, including a laundrette.

**Other Amenities**

Conference facilities cater for up to 40 people. There is a fully licensed à la carte restaurant and a shop stocked with groceries, including fresh meat and bread. Petrol and liquor are obtainable. There is a swimming pool, and riding is also enjoyed. The Mountain Zebra Hiking Trail takes three days to complete, spending two nights in huts en route.

*Information:* Call (0481) 2427/2486. *Bookings:* National Parks Board, PO Box 787, Pretoria 0001. Call (012) 44 1191 or PO Box 7400, Roggebaai 8012. Call (021) 419 5365.

**Somerset East**

At the foot of the 1 615 m Boschberg, Somerset East was laid out in 1825 on a farm which Lord Charles Somerset had used to produce fodder for the frontier garrisons. Occupies a sheep and angora goat farming area, where orange groves and wild flowers enhance the landscape. There is a 10 km mountain drive and walks to beauty spots in nearby forests and ravines. The original Wesleyan Church is today a museum.

**Auret Drive**

Accessible from Henry Street. The drive along the summit of the Boschberg commands a splendid view of the town. The road passes a beautiful golf course and *Besterhoek*, a delightful spot with a municipal caravan park and camping site under pine trees.

**Drostdy**

Off Paulet Street. Initially built in Georgian style for the superintendent of the Government Experimental Farm. Became a Drostdy after Somerset East was proclaimed a town.

**Gill College**

Formerly a well known high school for boys, now a dual medium school established with an endowment bequeathed by philanthropist, Dr William Gill, who came to Somerset East in the 1820s.

**Glen Avon Waterfall**

Situated on the farm 'Glen Avon' owned by Mr RC Brown, whose permission must be obtained to visit the falls.

**Old Mill House**

NM. Paulet Street. Built early 19th century. Privately owned.

**Somerset East Museum**

Top end of Beaufort Street. NM. Originally a Wesleyan chapel (1826-1828), later the property of the Dutch Reformed Church, and in 1835 converted into a 'pastorie' (parsonage). Most exhibits reflect early church

history; other features include a wedding gown gallery, old documents and photographs, and exquisite hand-made dolls made locally during World War I. The garden has an extraordinary variety of roses. Open weekdays 09h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00; Sat. 10h00-12h00 and 15h00-17h00. Closed Sun. and public holidays.

**Walter Battiss Art Gallery**

Beaufort Street. Once an officers' mess. Walter Battiss stayed in this house as a boy, and today it houses a collection of his paintings. Open Tues.-Fri. 10h00-12h00 and 14h00-16h00; Sat.-Sun. 14h00-16h00.

**Sport and Recreation**

Sporting facilities include tennis courts, a swimming pool, bowling greens and an excellent golf course. Dams and rivers in the vicinity are stocked with trout, and outdoor enthusiasts also enjoy the many lovely mountain forests, streams and waterfalls.

**Tourist Information**

Information Bureau  
PO Box 21  
Somerset East  
5850  
Call (042412) ask for 8 or 272

**Pearston**

Midway between Somerset East and Graaff-Reinet, on the farm, *Cranemere*, a private game park and a private museum feature a collection of fossils



VICTORIAN INTERIOR, RESTORED FARMHOUSE



AVOCET: STUDY IN CURVES AND CONTRASTS



GRAAFF-REINET - 'GEM OF THE KAROO'



and Stone Age artefacts. Viewing by appointment only. Call (0464) 1211.

### Graaff-Reinet

The oldest town in the Eastern Province and fourth oldest in South Africa, founded in 1786, and reputed to be one of only two in the world situated in the heart of a nature reserve — in this case, the Karoo Nature Reserve. Serenely beautiful and aptly named 'The Gem of the Karoo,' Graaff-Reinet is situated at the foot of the rugged Sneeuwberg mountains in a horseshoe formed by the Sundays River.

Architectural styles reflect 200 years of community development, ranging from simple flat-topped Karoo-style houses to stately Cape Dutch homes and ornate Victorian villas — legacies of past master-builders — blending happily with those of the 20th century. So many old buildings have been restored that the town possibly has more national monuments than any other of its size in the country. Its quiet streets are lined with old fashioned lamps and charming whitewashed cottages with dark green woodwork, charming in their simplicity. The restored houses in Cradock Street are renowned for their beautiful fanlights.

The grace of present day Graaff-Reinet belies a period of turmoil during the Napoleonic Wars at the turn of the 18th century, when Dutch 'burghers' defied the authority of

official Cape rule and set up the short-lived independent 'Colony of Graaff-Reinet'.

### Drostdy

Church Street, NM. Designed by Louis Michel Thibault and completed in 1806, this stately building, once a Drostdy, is now a hotel. The interior and exterior have been carefully restored, and at the back of the hotel, the *Stretch's Court* cottages, originally the quarters of mid-19th century emancipated slaves, have been incorporated, restored and exquisitely furnished with authentic period items.

### Graaff-Reinet Museum Complex

Comprises Reinet House, the old Residency and Reinet Museum (see below).

### Graaff-Reinet Pharmacy

24 Caledon Street, NM. A modern pharmacy with solid mahogany medicine cabinets and glass medicine containers dating from the early 19th century. Open during normal trading hours.

### 'Grootkerk'

Northern end of Church Street, within a *ringmuur* (traditional surrounding wall) NM. Inaugurated September 1887, this is one of the most imposing Dutch Reformed churches in South Africa, built along Gothic lines similar to those of England's Salisbury Cathedral. It houses one of the finest ecclesiastical collections of Cape silver

in the country, comprising a baptismal font, four covered communion cups with gilt interiors, a flat oval dish and eight communion plates. May be viewed during office hours on weekdays; Sat. 09h00-12h00 and Sun. before services.

### Hester Rupert Art Museum

Church Street, NM. Formerly a Dutch Reformed Mission Church designed on the traditional cruciform plan and consecrated in 1821. Restored and converted into an art museum, named after Dr Anton Rupert's mother, it houses a valuable collection of contemporary South African art. (The Rupert family is closely associated with the history of Graaff-Reinet.) Open weekdays 10h00-12h00 and 15h00-17h00; Sat., Sun. and public holidays 10h00-12h00.

### Jan Rupert Centre (Graaff-Reinet Kraft)

Middle Street. Originally a church, this building was renamed after restoration and now houses a home-spinning and weaving industry, using Graaff-Reinet wool in natural colours or dyed with colour-fast Karoo bush dye (approved by the Wool Board) to produce a variety of unique articles of clothing, table runners, mats, cushion covers and the like. Open during normal trading hours. This labour-intensive project was instigated by local citizens in 1981 to alleviate unemployment in the area.



INHABITANTS OF THE OWL HOUSE, NIEU BETHESDA



GRACIOUS OLD REINET HOUSE, TODAY A MUSEUM



SPRINGBOK ABOUND IN THE KAROO NATURE RESERVE



BLACK ACORN GRAPEVINE, REINET HOUSE

### **John Rupert Little Theatre**

Parsonage Street. NM. Once the Church of the London Mission Society which acquired the property in 1847. It was restored and given to the Town Council in perpetuity by Dr Anton Rupert in honour of his father.

### **Old Magazine**

On Magazine Hill. NM. Dates back to 1833 when it was used by local shopkeepers for the storage of gunpowder.

### **Old Residency**

Parsonage Street, diagonally opposite Reinet House. NM. An elegant building housing the excellent *Jan Felix Lategan Memorial Collection of Historical Firearms*. Open weekdays 09h00-12h00 and 15h00-17h00; Sat. and Sun. 09h00-12h00 (in season only); 10h00-12h00 out of season.

### **Parsonage Street**

This street, lying between Reinet House and the Drostdy, is to be restored in its entirety. Much has already been accomplished, including the restoration of a number of flat-roofed typical Karoo houses. The modern Public Library is a replica of the Congregational Church School (the town's first school) which formerly occupied the site.

### **Reinet House**

Parsonage Street. NM. Built in typical H-shaped Cape Dutch architectural style between 1806 and 1812, Reinet House was used as a Dutch Reformed parsonage until 1904. For 82 years it was occupied by the Murray family, notably the Rev Andrew Murray, a distinguished spiritual leader, and his son, Charles. Today a museum, its lofty yellowwood ceilings grace a remarkable collection of 18th and early 19th century period furniture and effects. At the back, there is a graceful semi-circular staircase leading to the stoep. The *Black Acorn Grapevine* in the rear courtyard, once reputed to have the largest vine circumference in the world (3,10 m), now comprises a number of separate stems as a result of fungal rot. A wagon house accommodates vehicles of the period, and the *Mill House* was completed in 1978.

Open weekdays 09h00-12h00 and 15h00-17h00; Sat. 09h00-12h00; Sun. 10h00-12h00.

### **Reinet Museum**

Cnr Church and Somerset Streets. Houses the *Graaff-Reinet Publicity Associations Information Bureau*: Exhibits include fossils of reptiles which inhabited the Karoo some 230 million years ago. The *Rykie Pretorius Collection of Clothing*, dating from 1800, is one of the most comprehensive collections of its kind

in South Africa. Part of the *Rembrandt van Rijn Collection of Reproductions of Bushman Art* by R Townley Johnson is on display. The *William Roe Photographic Exhibition* features the work of this pioneer photographer who came to Graaff-Reinet in about 1860. Open weekdays 09h00-12h00 and 15h00-17h00; Sat. 09h00-12h00; Sun. 10h00-12h00.

### **Sport and recreation**

Graaff-Reinet has tennis, swimming, golf, cricket, squash, badminton and bowls facilities. Watersports are enjoyed on the neighbouring *Van Rhyneveld Pass Dam*. For further details, consult the Graaff-Reinet Information Bureau in Reinet Museum or call the telephone number below.

### **Tourist Information**

Graaff-Reinet Publicity Association  
PO Box 153  
Graaff-Reinet  
6280  
Call (0491) 2 2479 (Chairman's residence)

### **Karoo Nature Reserve: Valley of Desolation**

In the vicinity of Graaff-Reinet on the R63. This 15 000 ha reserve is stocked with springbok, rhebok and other species of game. Hiking trails have been established; consult the Graaff-Reinet Publicity Association (see above) for details. In the reserve 14 km from town, the *Valley of Desolation*, NM, is a geological phenomenon. More of a ravine than a valley, two parallel rock columns precariously balance and rise to heights of 90-120 m in an eerie, startling phalanx of mighty pillars and plunging clefts. Few negotiate the void between them, nor the rocks dropping sheer, carved by wind and rain over the millennia. The view beyond over the Karoo yields glimpses of the typical shale outcrops that hid the fossils of reptiles which inhabited the swamps some 200 million years ago. A *Toposcope* affords splendid views overlooking the town and surrounding area, including *Compass Berg*, the highest point in the Karoo.

### **Nieu Bethesda**

Signposted on the R57 to Middelburg. The charming village of Nieu Bethesda lies among the foothills of the towering *Compass Berg* in a scenic valley 50 km north of Graaff-Reinet. Along a pear tree lined street, there is a working water wheel, and in the back garden of the *Owl House*, a collection of weird statuettes may be viewed (by appointment only). Call (04923) 754. The farm *Wellwood*, former home of the late fossil collector, Dr Sidney Rubidge, is situated on the road to Nieu Bethesda.

A collection of prehistoric Karoo reptiles in a private museum may be viewed by appointment. Call (0419) 2 2016.

### **Aberdeen**

Laid out in 1856 and named after the birthplace of the Rev. Dr Andrew Murray in Scotland. The *Camdeboo Mountains* form a backdrop to the town, a sheep and cattle farming centre. According to local history, the last wild quagga was shot in the vicinity of Aberdeen during the late 19th century.

### **Willowmore**

A district noted for wool, mohair, and sheep and angora goat breeding. The *Beerulei Flood Control Dam*, 29 km north of the town, is a pleasant picnic area. From Willowmore the R62 continues south-east through the beautiful *Baviaanskloof*, a splendid valley where high peaks and gorges guard the limits of a perennial stream and its rocky pools.

### **Steytlerville**

Commercial centre of a famous mohair and wool farming area. The house (private) of the poet, AG Visser, is in the main street. There is a fine view of the Winterhoek Mountains, including the Cockscomb. North of Steytlerville, Klipplaat railway junction has a reservoir with good fishing and motor-boating.

### **Kirkwood and the Sundays River Valley**

Attractive gardens and orange orchards are a feature of this town in the intensively cultivated Sundays River Valley, which produces 25% of South Africa's citrus. The grave of Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, Johannesburg pioneer and author of *Jock of the Bushveld* is at *Lookout* aptly named for its excellent view. (Turn-off near Sundays River Bridge at Sunlands.) The annual rose show, held in October at *Addo Village*, is one of the region's major events, and the Polo Club attracts members of the chukkah set between March and October each year.

### **Addo Elephant National Park** (See p.11)

# The Garden Route

An area richly endowed by nature — spectacular in many ways — with a diversity of endemic floral species: arums, watsonias, wild iris and pelargoniums (familarly known as geraniums), and rare, protected plants such as the lovely red George lily found beside streams and waterfalls. There are valleys, gorges, mountain passes and ancient evergreen forests. The Wilderness lakes and lagoons have a special, magical appeal. And a rugged coastline, marked by a succession of bays, beaches, cliffs, coves and capes, links one serenely set holiday resort to another.

Many choose the seclusion and simplicity of a holiday cottage perched high on a cliff overlooking the sea, where yachtsmen, windsurfers and boardsailers challenge the elements, and a broad blue backdrop stretches out to the distant horizon where sea meets sky. Others opt for a jet set hotel, sophisticated restaurants offering cosmopolitan culinary delights, and a life of pampered ease.

For exploration with a difference, many follow the paths of the Tsitsikamma Coastal National Park. Beautiful and wild, it has a timeless

quality, its quiet tidal pools rich in marine life; the glimpse of an otter or the print of a leopard or caracal paw bring unexpected pleasure, and the solitary dunes summon up visions of the earliest days of creation.

Inland the region encompasses the Outeniqua Mountains, some of the most majestic passes in the country and the arid plains of the Little Karoo. Its ostrich farms and 'feather palaces' are opulent reminders of Oudtshoorn's turn-of-the-century 'boom' when prime feathers fetched more than their weight in gold. Deep in the lovely Swartberg Mountains, the immense subterranean Cango Caves adorned with stalagmites and stalagmites are daily discovered anew in all their beauty and variety — fragile, dramatic and awe-inspiring.

While the exact boundaries of the Garden Route are often under dispute, the glory of its scenery is internationally recognised, contributing greatly to its long held status as one of South Africa's most popular holiday playgrounds.

(National Monuments indicated by NM!)

## Jeffrey's Bay

A rapidly growing holiday resort renowned among surfers world-wide and reputed to be the 'home of the perfect wave'. The almost rock-free coastline is noted for sea shells. The local library houses the *Kritzinger Sea Shell Collection*.

### Tourist Information

Jeffrey's Bay Municipality  
Da Gama Street  
PO Box 21  
Jeffrey's Bay  
6630  
Call (04231) 3 1111

## St Francis Bay

A vast bay encompassing the popular resorts of *Cape St Francis*, *St Francis Bay*, *Paradise Beach*, and *Aston Bay*. with wide unspoilt beaches. A shell collector's paradise, the Bay presents excellent swimming, wind-surfing and board-sailing opportunities. The Kromme (crooked) River estuary joins the sea at St Francis Bay and a marina has been developed. Navigable for about 10 km, the river is a magnet for fishermen and is notable for its birdlife and the wild flowers along its banks. The rockier coastline in the



THE GARDEN ROUTE BEACHES HAVE A MAGICAL APPEAL

vicinity is also popular with anglers, and deep sea fishing trips may be arranged.

The sandy stretches of *Paradise Beach* on the western bank of the lagoon created by the Seekoei and Swart Rivers are popular tourist haunts. The lagoon provides sanctuary for at least 57 species of birds, including flamingo and about 400 swans. A 2 750 000 candle power lighthouse, 28 m high, built in 1876, stands on *Seal Point*. At *Aston Bay*, the *Seekoei River Nature Reserve* is the home of wild swans and other waterfowl, while the *Cape St Francis Marine Nature Reserve*, also known as *Second Bush*, is the home of the South African sea otter. *Information:* call (04231) 4304. *Humansdorp*, in the vicinity, supplies the area with fresh produce.

### Oyster Bay

A resort with long beaches 26 km south-west of Humansdorp, much favoured by fishermen. Holiday accommodation available. Sea otters inhabit a nature reserve between Oyster Bay and Cape St Francis.

### Kareedouw

A timber and farming centre on the outskirts of the Tsitsikamma Forest. Yellowwood, stinkwood and Australian blackwood furniture is produced in the village which lies at the entrance to the Long Kloof, noted for fruit production. Wild flowers grow prolifically on the mountain slopes.



THE EVERGREEN TSITSIKAMMA FOREST

### Tsitsikamma Forest National Park

This evergreen park comprises a dense indigenous forest, originally called De Plaat, renowned for large numbers of yellowwood trees, some estimated to be over 800 years old. The deep forest is the natural home of rare birds such as the Knysna and narina trogon.

#### Climate

Rain falls throughout the year. May and October are the wettest months and June and July the driest. The temperate climate is ideal for holiday-makers.

#### Vegetation

Within dense forests of familiar species such as yellowwood, candlewood, assegai, stinkwood and ironwood, ferns, lichens and creepers flourish. The tallest tree, an Outeniqua yellowwood, is 37 m tall with a 30 m wide canopy.

#### Animals and Birds

Plentiful birdlife such as the rare Knysna lourie and narina trogon, bushpig, bushbuck, grey duiker, baboons and leopard may be seen.

#### Accommodation and Amenities

At the Paul Sauer Bridge over the Storms River, there is a restaurant, shop, filling station and caravan park. *Reservations:* see details below under Tsitsikamma Coastal National Park.

### Storms River

From a small jetty at the mouth,

canoists paddle up the Storms River. The *Paul Sauer Bridge*, a single span bridge 190 m long designed by Ricardo Morandi, crosses the river and replaces the road which traversed the *Storms River Pass*. Because of certain climatic, ecological and vegetative features, purists consider the Storms River mouth to be the eastern point of the Garden Route.

### Tsitsikamma Coastal National Park

An 80 km long park, stretching from the Groot River Mouth near Humansdorp to the Groot River Mouth at Nature's Valley. The coast is wild and rocky, punctuated by small sandy beaches. Established to protect the coastal strip and the marine life along the coast, this was the first proclaimed coastal national park on the African continent.

#### Climate

Similar to that of the Tsitsikamma Forest National Park. Average rainfall: 880 mm per year.

#### Vegetation

Rich and varied plant life, thanks to high rainfall. Ferns, wild orchards, proteas, heath, many species of lily and yellowwood abound.

#### Fauna

The Cape clawless otter, after whom the Otter Hiking Trail (see below) is named, is rarely seen. Baboon, rock-rabbit, bushbuck, Cape grysbok and



ADMIRING THE VIEW FROM STORMS RIVER MOUTH



HOLIDAY HOMES, ST FRANCIS BAY



blue duiker are less timid and frequently spotted. Dolphins and whales are often seen beyond the breakers of the ocean, and rock pools support a wealth of anemones, starfish, sponges and sealslugs. Two hundred and ten species of birds have been recorded.

#### **Accommodation and Amenities**

Angling and skin-diving (for those with the prescribed qualifications) are permitted within certain marked areas: spear fishing and bait collecting are forbidden. The rest camp at Storms River Mouth has a restaurant, holiday cottages, oceanette chalets and camping facilities.

#### **Hiking Trails**

**Otter Trail.** The five-day trail extends from Storms River westwards over a distance of 48 km, ending at the Groot River Mouth near Nature's Valley. There are four strategically placed huts on the trail.

**Details and Bookings:** National Parks Board, PO Box 787, Pretoria 0001, call (012) 44 1191/2/3/4/5/6/7/8, or PO Box 7400, Roggebaai 8012, call (021) 419 5365. The five-day *Tsitsikamma Hiking Trail* extends inland from the Groot River camping site near Nature's Valley to the Storm's River Mouth over a distance of 72 km, forming a circular route with the Otter Trail.

**Details and Bookings:** The Regional Director, Tsitsikamma Forest Region,

Private Bag X537, Humansdorp 6300. Call (04231) 5 1180.

#### **Nature's Valley**

The entire village area is a nature reserve lying at the bottom of the Groot River Pass next to the heavily wooded Tsitsikamma Forest. An idyllic holiday spot with beautiful forest walks and safe bathing, especially in the lagoon.

#### **Bloukrans and Grootriver Passes**

A new toll road with a turn off at *Coldstream* gives access to the passes and their sensational views. The *Bloukrans Rest Area* near the toll gates provides a magnificent view of the impressive *Bloukrans River Bridge*. This is a delightful spot for caravanners and picnickers. Further insights into the area may be gained at the *Bloukrans River Bridge Information Centre* where the South African Tourism Board and the National Parks Board have permanent exhibitions.

#### **Plettenberg Bay**

In 1576 the Portuguese explorer, Mesquita da Perestrelo, named Plettenberg Bay *Bahia Formosa* (beautiful bay). Its first European settlers (sailors from the wrecked San Gonzales) arrived in 1630 — 20 years before Van Riebeeck landed at the Cape. The *Jerling Collection* of Ming pottery and artefacts salvaged from the wreck are on display in the

Municipal buildings.

The name Plettenberg Bay was derived from the Governor of the Cape Colony, Joachim van Plettenberg, after his visit in 1778. He erected a stone pillar (Van Plettenberg's Monument) as a mark of possession by the Dutch East India Company. The 'Red Bourne Church', Yellowwood Chapel of St Andrew, built in 1851, is the oldest church in the diocese of George and is still in use.

Possibly the most popular up-market resort on the Garden Route, Plettenberg Bay is set in spectacular surroundings, attracting a large inflow of visitors, especially in summer.

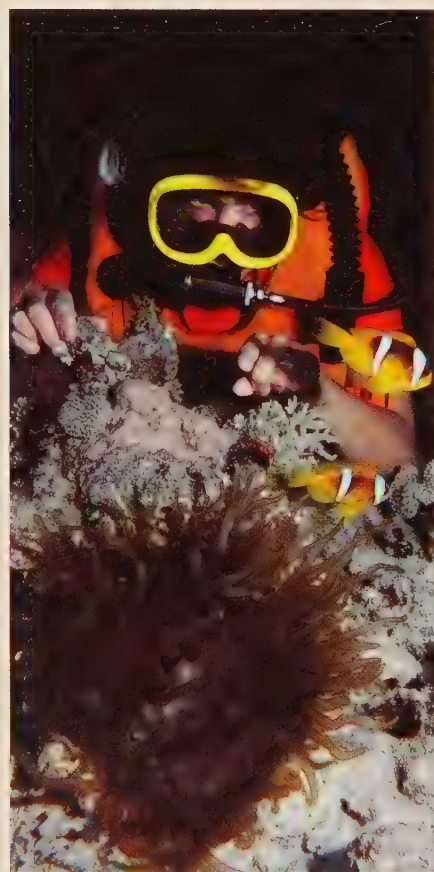
It enjoys an average 320 days of sunshine per annum. Three magnificent beaches along a 12 km long coastline offer enjoyable safe bathing throughout the year. A number of whales visit the area each year during the calving season: July-September. On Beacon Island a luxury hotel has replaced the old Whaling Station. The resort recently introduced 'Plett time' to afford visitors the opportunity of enjoying an extra hour of sunshine daily from December to Easter.

#### **Robbeberg Nature Reserve**

A spectacular red sandstone peninsula ending at Cape Seal, 240 ha in extent, and rich in bird and intertidal marine life. *Nelson Bay Cave* and rock shelters housing shells and ancient



LAI D BACK LEISURE AT PLETTENBERG BAY



DIVERS EXPLORE A WATERY UNDERWORLD

tools were once inhabited by prehistoric beachcombers. Development plans include a marina for yachts and deep sea fishing boats in a secluded area.

### Sport and Recreation

**Sporting facilities:** golf, tennis, bowls, squash, riding, indoor putt-putt and angling.

**Angling:** the angling club has three fishing shacks. The club is open from 09h00-12h00 and 14h00-16h00 from December to mid-January. Ruskin House: call (04457) 3 1325.

**Scuba Diving:** excellent diving opportunities and beautiful marine life around the reefs. Clear water almost throughout the year. For further information, call (04457) 3 1120.

**Sailing:** from Central Beach, scene of the World Hobie Championships, all classes of boat sailing. The large lagoon is a favourite venue for boardsailing.

**Water-skiing:** on the Keurbooms River (see p.42) for 1 km upstream from the national road bridge. Beyond the 1 km

mark, a maximum speed of 10 km per hour is strictly enforced. No water-skiing is allowed downstream of the national road bridge.

### How to Get to Plettenberg Bay

Plettenberg Bay is a scheduled stop of Air Cape, and SATS motor coaches also serve the area. National highways link Plettenberg Bay with the major centres.

A new inter-city coach service operates between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth via the Garden Route. Information: call (021) 931 8000, (041) 39 2200 or (011) 774 4128.

### Tourist Information

Plettenberg Bay Publicity Association  
PO Box 26

Plettenberg Bay 6600

Call (04457) 3 2050

The South African Tourism Board's George Office (see back page).

### In the Vicinity of Plettenberg Bay

#### Wittedrift

The Wittedrift High School Nature Trail, open to the public since 1983,

extends across the Wittedrift Farm, over hills and along the Bitou River. Information: call (04457) 9731/9637.

### Keurbooms River Nature Reserve

About eight km from Plettenberg Bay, the area north of the bridge spanning the Keurbooms River is a proclaimed nature area. It offers nature walks and accommodation in beautiful surroundings. The Plettenberg Angling Club is situated on the banks of the river. Call (04457) 9740.

### Keurboomstrand

A popular beach and resort near the Keurbooms River offering holiday accommodation in a hotel, chalets, cottages and a caravan park. A 20-minute walk on a narrow path from the caravan park leads to the Matjies River Cave. Excavations near the cave have uncovered skeletal remains and archaeological objects, many of which are on display in the Bloemfontein National Museum.

### Kranshoek

Twelve km from Plettenberg Bay near



MAP 8: GARDEN ROUTE AND LONG KLOOF

- |       |                           |
|-------|---------------------------|
| 1 A1  | Swartberg Pass            |
| 2 A2  | Oudtshoorn                |
| 3 A2  | Mossel Bay                |
| 4 A2  | Hartenbos                 |
| 5 A2  | Great Brak River          |
| 6 A2  | Outeniqua Pass            |
| 7 A2  | George                    |
| 8 A2  | Wilderness                |
| 9 A2  | Wilderness National Lakes |
| 10 B2 | Sedgefield                |
| 11 B2 | Goukamma Nature Reserve   |
| 12 B2 | Brenton-on-Sea            |
| 13 B2 | Knysna National Lake Area |
| 14 B2 | Knysna                    |

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 15 B2 | Uniondale                                     |
| 16 B2 | Avontuur                                      |
| 17 B2 | Plettenberg Bay                               |
| 18 B2 | Nature's Valley                               |
| 19 C2 | Long Kloof Bridge                             |
| 20 C2 | Louterwater                                   |
| 21 C2 | Krakeel River                                 |
| 22 C2 | Long Kloof                                    |
| 23 C2 | Joubertina                                    |
| 24 C2 | Tweerivieren                                  |
| 25 C2 | Tsitsikamma Forest and Coastal National Parks |
| 26 C2 | Kareedouw                                     |
| 27 D2 | Oyster Bay                                    |

- |       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| 28 D2 | Humansdorp     |
| 29 D2 | St Francis Bay |
| 30 D2 | Paradise Beach |
| 31 D2 | Hankey         |
| 32 D2 | Loerie         |

#### TOURIST INFORMATION

- |      |                                       |
|------|---------------------------------------|
| A A2 | Oudtshoorn Publicity Association      |
| B A2 | Mossel Bay Publicity Association      |
| C A2 | The SA Tourism Board's George Office  |
| D A2 | National Parks Board Regional Office  |
| E B2 | Knysna Publicity Association          |
| F B2 | Plettenberg Bay Publicity Association |

Harkerville. A beautiful forest drive leads to a picnic spot with views of rugged cliffs overlooking the sea. Nature trails lead to a beautiful waterfall.

### Garden of Eden

Fourteen km from Plettenberg Bay on the Knysna road. An indigenous forest with labelled trees, paths and pleasant picnic spots.

### Knysna

One of the Southern Cape coast's best known holiday resorts, also a residential area and a major furniture manufacturing centre. Situated between lush inland forests and the shores of a peaceful lagoon, Knysna was established by George Rex, whose lifestyle and grand manner led to rumours that he was the son of George III. As a result of his endeavours the first ship, the *Podargus*, sailed safely through the Heads into the lagoon in 1817. After this incident Knysna became a prosperous harbour primarily for the

export of wood. The area is renowned for its stinkwood and yellowwood, two of South Africa's most valued indigenous woods. An independent brewery (visitors welcome) in the resort produces draft beer for the local populace.

### Knysna National Lakes Area

The beautiful Knysna Lagoon was recently declared a National Lake Area stretching from Buffels Bay in the east to Noetzie in the west. It incorporates land around the lagoon, as well as the town of Knysna. The National Parks Board exercises control over elements which adversely affect the ecology of the area, while allowing a variety of sporting activities including swimming, canoeing, sailing and waterskiing.

### The Heads

Two great sandstone cliffs guard the mouth of the lagoon, connecting the estuary with the sea. A look-out on the eastern Head commands beautiful views of the lagoon, Leisure Isle and Knysna. The western Head is the site of *Featherbed Bay*, a private nature reserve.

### Millwood House Museum

Queen Street. Millwood House, NM, houses material relating to the history of the town, including a collection of articles which belonged to George Rex. This yellowwood house was erected at the end of the previous century during the gold rush at Millwood. It was later moved from Millwood to Knysna. Open Mon.-Fri. 10h00-12h00.

### Oysters

The Knysna Lagoon (a National Lake Area) is one of the few places on the coast to support an oyster hatchery. Knysna oysters, in great demand, are reputedly among the finest in the world.

### Sport and Recreation

**Fishing:** for details consult 'Fishing' (see p.49).

**Watersports:** yachting, water-skiing and boating are popular on the lagoon, also the site of pleasure cruises. *Information:* Knysna Publicity Association, see below.

**Other Facilities:** golf, tennis, bowls.

### In the Vicinity of Knysna

#### Brackenhill Falls

10 km from Knysna on a gravel road, situated on the Noetzie River and surrounded by forest; a series of beautiful waterfalls plummet into a deep ravine.

#### Brenton-on-Sea

Spectacular views of the Knysna Lagoon may be enjoyed along the road to this holiday resort. Fishing is

rewarding and the warm current makes for pleasant swimming. On the turn off to Brenton *Belvidere Church* has many interesting architectural features. The rose window on the western side is made of glass salvaged from a number of churches in Britain which were bombed during World War

### Elephant Walk

An 18-km circular nature trail. Free permits obtainable from the Diepwalle Forestry Station. A well-marked route, involving a hike of about 6 hours, and two shorter alternative walks. Open between 06h00-18h00. Diepwalle is the end point of the Outeniqua Hiking Trail. *Information:* see p.46

### George Rex's Grave

In a stone-walled enclosure beside two tall pine trees on the national road near the turn off to the Heads. Three members of his extensive family lie buried beside him.

### King Edward's Tree

1,5 km from the Diepwalle Forestry Station turn off. A magnificent yellowwood tree — the oldest in existence — has a circumference of over 7 m and reaches a height of 46 m before branching. Estimated at between 600 and 800 years old.

### Knysna Forest

The largest indigenous forest in South Africa; tall and ancient trees, local and exotic species: stinkwood, yellowwood, blackwood, ironwood, white alders and Cape chestnut; ferns, creepers and wild flowers. The forest is dense and in places impenetrable. Animal life is limited to a few antelope and the remnants of herds of Knysna elephants which once roamed the area — the last of the bush or savannah elephant.

### Millwood

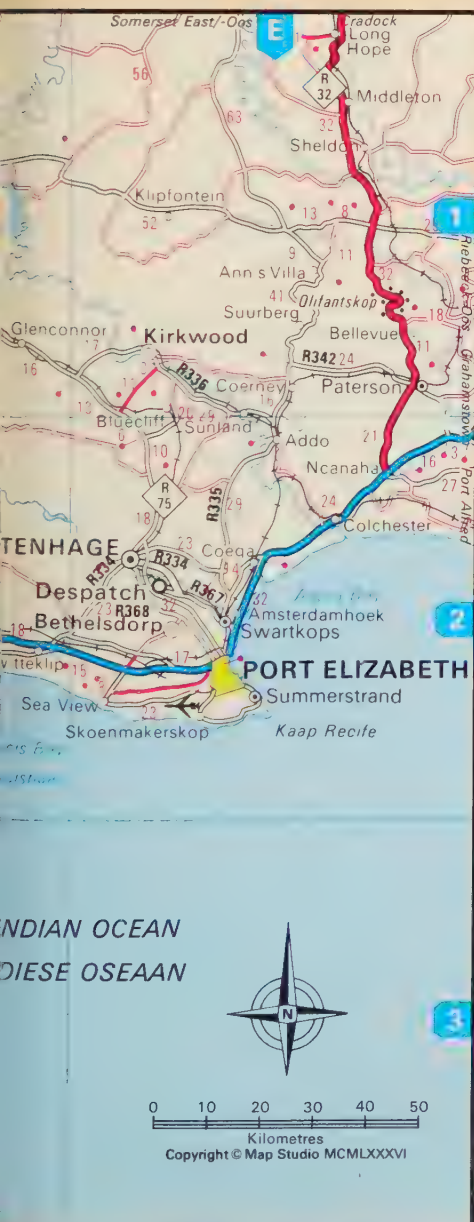
Take the Goudveld Forest Reserve road (signposted) to the forester's office to obtain permission to visit the site of South Africa's first gold mine. Alluvial gold was discovered here in 1885 and caused a rush to the area. There is a picnic spot at Jubilee Creek, the exact spot where gold was discovered, and there are many beautiful forest walks in the vicinity.

### Noetzie

A spacious, beautiful beach east of Knysna with a number of beach cottages and holiday homes. The beach is accessible only on foot or with a four-wheel-drive vehicle.

### Tourist Information

Knysna Publicity Association  
PO Box 87  
Knysna  
6501  
Call (0445) 2 1610



### **Goukamma Nature Reserve**

An area of coastal dunes and the natural bird sanctuary of the Goukamma River. A shady picnic site next to the river is open to the public during daylight hours. Permits to enter the reserve are obtainable from the ranger's office through the gate marked 'No Admittance'. Open Mon.-Fri. 07h30-16h30.

*Information:* Senior Nature Conservation Officer, PO Sedgefield, 6573. Call (04455) 50.

### **Buffels Bay**

A beautiful beach — one of the safest on the coast — stretching from Buffels Bay to Brenton-on-Sea, much frequented by holidaymakers. An abundance of rocks makes the bay a rock angler's paradise. A slipway is available for small boats.

### **Groenvlei**

Also known as *Lake Pleasant*, Groenvlei, three km east of Sedgefield, is the only freshwater lagoon on the Garden Route. Noted for black bass and prolific birdlife. Rowing boats are permitted on the lagoon but to protect the ecosystem, power boats may not be used. A hotel and caravan park are situated on the banks of the lagoon.

### **Sedgefield**

Sedgefield borders the Swartvlei Lagoon near its mouth, forming an attractive, spacious beach offering excellent fishing. A popular resort with holiday accommodation, including

houses, in and around the town.

### **Wilderness National Lakes**

Under the aegis of the National Parks Board, this area of ferns, lakes and tidal rivers lies on the Garden Route between George and Knysna, and consists of the *Touw River Estuary*, the *Serpentine* (the estuary's link with Eilandvlei) *Eilandvlei*, *Langvlei* and *Swartvlei*. Recently proclaimed a 'lakes area', it introduces a new concept in national parks, involving man, his farming and his recreational activities. Bordered in the south by the Indian Ocean and the north by the Outeniqua Mountains, this scenically enchanting area includes the townships of Sedgefield, Wilderness East and Hoekwil.

### **Vegetation**

Strikingly diverse, ranging from hardwood rain-forest to the reeds and rushes of the 'vleis' or lakes and the scrub communities of the dune barriers.

### **Fauna**

A variety of small mammals, including the nocturnal bushpig, and marine, estuarine and evergreen forest birds such as the Knysna lourie.

### **Accommodation and Amenities**

*Swartvlei* and *Eilandvlei* are suitable for a variety of watersports, and rowing boats are permitted on *Groenvlei*. Numerous routes around the vleis offer pleasure to hikers and

naturalists. Accommodation ranges from privately owned hotels to National Parks Board chalets and caravan facilities.

*General Information:* consult the South African Tourism Board's George Office (see back page).

*Further Information:* The National Parks Board, PO Box 787, Pretoria 0001. Call (012) 44 1191/2/3/4/5/6/7/8. Alternatively, write to National Parks Board, PO Box 7400, Roggebaai 8012 or call Cape Town (021) 419 5365.

### **Passes Road**

This alternative partly tarred route in excellent condition between George and Knysna (an early engineering feat) serves several forestry stations. Boasts views of indigenous flora: trees, amber-coloured streams and fern forests. The giant yellowwood tree at Woodville may be reached on this road. There are stunning inland views of the area referred to as the 'Map of Africa' on one side of the road and the Indian Ocean on the other (signposted).

### **Victoria Bay**

A tiny bay at the foot of steep cliffs, with a small beach and safe bathing. One of the best surfing areas in Southern Africa, especially in winter.

### **George**

The principal town of the Garden Route, set among parklands on a coastal plateau between the sea and the Outeniqua Mountains. Sometimes called the 'Garden City'. In 1936 the



WEIRD AND WONDERFUL FORMS OF THE FOREST



THE CHARM AND DIGNITY OF GEORGE



THE OUTENIQUA CHOO-TJOE

Government prohibited the felling of indigenous trees for 200 years, so as to preserve the magnificent yellowwood and stinkwood indigenous to the area. This is one of the few hop-producing regions in South Africa.

#### **Church of St Peter and St Paul**

Cnr Hibernia and Meade Sts. Oldest existing Roman Catholic church in South Africa.

#### **Dutch Reformed Church**

Courtenay Street. The oldest church in town, with a stinkwood pulpit and a dome and pillars of indigenous yellowwood.

#### **George Museum**

Old Drostdy Building. Exhibits relate to the general history of the area — in particular the early days of the timber industry. An interesting collection of phonographs and old musical instruments are also on display. The PW Botha exhibit comprising medals and a number of gifts he has received over the years from foreign dignitaries is a recent addition. Open Mon.-Fri. 09h00-16h30; Sat. 09h00-12h30.

#### **Outeniqua Choo-Tjoe**

A scenic day trip in an old steam train between George and Knysna, through tunnels, over lagoons, rivers and cliffs overlooking the sea. Return trips or single trips in either direction may be undertaken.

*Departure Times and Tickets:* the Station Master, George.

#### **St Mark's Cathedral**

York St. Reputedly at one time the smallest cathedral in the southern hemisphere.

#### **Van Riebeeck Garden**

Near the hospital. A park with indigenous flowers and shrubs.

#### **Sport and Recreation**

Outeniqua Park in Langenhoven Road. A sports complex equipped for tennis, rugby, hockey and jukskei, as well as indoor sports including squash, badminton and table tennis. The town has a scenic 18-hole golf course and bowling club.

*Witfontein Forestry Station* is the starting point of the 148 km *Outeniqua Hiking Trail*, which normally takes 8 days to complete, ending at Diepwalle. Huts for overnight stops have been erected at eight places en route. *Reservations:* the Regional Director, Southern Cape Forest Region, Private Bag X12, Knysna 6570. Call (0445) 2 3037.

*The Groeneweide Nature Trail* begins and ends at Saasveld near George. The trail leads through indigenous forests with beautiful views of the Wilderness area. The main hike takes approximately six hours, while a shorter route of four hours may be undertaken.

#### **Entertainment**

Theatre: the Arts Theatre stages performances in English and the Markteater in Afrikaans. Touring

companies appear regularly in the Civic Centre auditorium. Check local newspapers for details.

#### **How to Get to George**

Highways and national roads link George with major centres in South Africa. The PW Botha Airport 10 km south of town is served by South African Airways and Air Cape.

South African Transport Services run luxury coaches along the southern coast, linking Cape Town with Port Elizabeth. *Information:* call (021) 218 3581, (041) 529 2400 or (011) 774 4128. A new inter-Cape express service operates between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth via the Garden Route and Oudtshoorn. *Information:* call (021) 931 8000 or (041) 39 2200. Coach tours of the Garden Route in conjunction with South African Airways and Air Cape may also be undertaken. *Information:* call (0441) 70 7993/4 or SAA (011) 773 6618 or Air Cape (021) 931 2281.

#### **Tourist Information**

George Publicity Association  
PO Box 1109

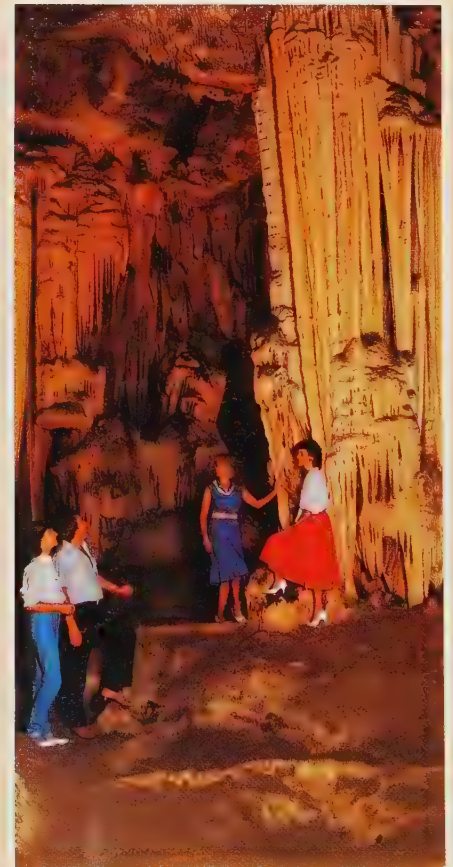
George  
6530

Call (0441) 74 2271

South African Tourism Board's George Office (see back page).



CRUISING IS ALWAYS POPULAR ON THE KNYSNA LAGOON



DRAMATIC STALACTITES AND STALAGMITES, CANGO CAVES, OUDTSHOORN

## Oudtshoorn

Centre of the southern Cape region and 'feather capital' of the world, Oudtshoorn is synonymous with ostriches. It is also notable for the production of lucerne, wine, fruit and grain. Oudtshoorn's *Ostrich Farms* are unique in that nowhere else in the world are these biggest of all birds raised so successfully. The industry is smaller than it was in its boom before World War I but meets steady demand. Besides the feathers used today for dusters and fashion accessories, the skin is used for handbags, shoes and wallets; biltong is produced from the meat and a single egg weighing just over a kilogram produces an omelette the equivalent of 24 hen's eggs. There are two large show farms: Highgate (call (04431) 7115/6) and Safari (call (04431) 7311/2) where visitors may spend about two hours on a guided tour. Open from 07h30-17h00 daily, including Sundays and public holidays. An ostrich 'derby' is a popular attraction.

### 'Arbeidsgenot'

NM. The home of writer and poet, CJ Langenhoven, in Jan van Riebeeck Road. A museum of his personal belongings includes wood carvings of his literary creation, 'Herrie the Elephant'. In the garden is a sundial he designed in 1926. Open weekdays 09h00-12h30 and 14h00-17h30; Sat. 09h00-12h00. Closed Sun. and

religious holidays. Call (04431) 2968.

### Cango Caves

Twenty-six km from Oudtshoorn. A two-hour conducted tour takes the visitor into a world of fascinating forms of vivid colour and beauty in a remarkable series of calcite caves, one of the great wonders of the world. There is a restaurant and a curio shop, as well as a crèche for small children and a room for pets. Tours are conducted daily every hour on the hour, 08h00-17h00 from December to February and in April. In March and from May to November the tours take place every two hours, 09h00-15h00.

### Cango Crocodile Ranch and Snake Park

Three km from Oudtshoorn en route to the Cango Caves. A one-hour tour leaves every half hour. The ranch provides sanctuary for over 300 crocs, from 30 cm long hatchlings to a four metre long man-eater. Snakes may be viewed at close range. Trained guides explain the life history of the reptiles. Call (04431) 5593.

### 'Dorphuis'

Adderley Street. An example of an 'ostrich palace', the town houses owned by the so-called 'feather barons' who controlled the industry during the boom period prior to World War I. Some of the original wallpaper and carpets may be seen. Open weekdays: 09h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00. Call (04431) 3676.

### Greystone Cheetah Wild Park

Three km on the Cango Road. As well as cheetah conserved in a small enclosure, the park provides sanctuary for a number of other animal species and birds. Within the park, Tafelkop, the highest point in the district, affords panoramic views of the Little Karoo farmlands. Open daily 07h30-17h30. Call (04431) 6014, office, or Wild Park (04431) 4167.

### CP Nel Museum

NM. Cnr Baron van Rieede and Voortrekker Streets. Housed in the former Boys High School, the building is one of the finest examples of the town's feather-boom sandstone architecture. A collection of local antiques illustrates the history of Oudtshoorn. The central theme is the ostrich industry and its history, including fashions during the feather-boom era. The Jewish religion, culture and background, as well as the contribution of the Jewish community to the development of Oudtshoorn, are depicted in the Jewish gallery. Open Mon.-Sat. 09h30-13h00 and 14h00-17h00; Sun. 14h30-17h00.

### How to Get to Oudtshoorn

A scheduled stop of Air Cape, railway and motor coach services from Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. National highways link Oudtshoorn with other major centres.

### Tourist Information

Oudtshoorn Publicity Association  
PO Box 255  
Oudtshoorn  
6620  
Call (04431) 2221/2228

### Herold's Bay

A small, sheltered holiday resort with a sandy beach. In addition to a large tidal pool, it offers safe bathing and good angling opportunities.

### Glentana

A popular coastal resort on the Great Brak River. The wreck of a floating dock stranded here in 1902 is visible at low tide.

### Great Brak River

A village with wide beaches and wooded hills. A local history museum is housed in a complex of four cottages. Open Mon., Wed. and Sat. 10h00-12h00. *Information:* call (04442) 2100.

### Hartenbos

A river resort, especially popular among members of the *Taal-en Kultuurvereniging*, an Afrikaans language and cultural organisation. The Voortrekker Museum exhibits articles from pioneer days. Open



BURY OUR HEADS IN THE SAND? THAT'S A MYTH!

weekdays 09h00-12h30 and 14h00-16h30. The resort offers comfortable accommodation, recreational facilities, shops, restaurants and a post office.  
*Information:* call (04441) 5106/7/8.

### **Mossel Bay**

The southern gateway to the Garden Route, Mossel Bay was the first landfall made by the Portuguese explorer, Bartholomew Diaz, on the Feast of St Blaize, 1488. He named it 'Aguada de Sao Bras' (watering place of St Blaize) and during the 15th century the bay became a convenient stop for ships to take on water and victuals. Vasco da Gama visited the bay on his way to India in 1497, and in 1500 one of his successors left a report in a seaman's boot attached to a prominent milkwood tree — South Africa's first post office (NM).

A freshwater spring, which for 500 years has never run dry, flows beneath the tree. On the same site, a stone cross or 'padrao' was donated by the Portuguese Government.

In 1601 the Dutch navigator, Paulus van Caerden, changed the name to Mossel Bay, as he found that mussels were a most welcome addition to the diet of his crew. Today mussels gathered in Mossel Bay each spring are rated by gourmets among the finest in the world.

The mild climate of this popular coastal resort combined with the warm Mozambique current makes for exceptional bathing and surfing at Santos, De Bakke and The Point, which also has a natural bathing pool. Excellent rock and surf fishing conditions keep anglers happy, and deep sea fishing trips may be arranged on demand.

### **Bat's Cave**

Below the lighthouse on The Point. No bats, but relics of early beachcombers were found here.

### **Harry Giddey Park**

Centre of town. Contains a great variety of indigenous plants and shrubs and a children's playground.

### **Historical Museum**

Market Street. Antiques include a cast of the famous Mossel Bay stone discovered in 1850, and over 1 000 different varieties of seashell. A map reputed to be over 400 years old is also on display. Open weekdays 09h00-12h00 and 14h00-16h30, except Wed. afternoon.

### **Post Office Tree**

NM. Early sailors left letters in a boot hanging from this milkwood tree. A letter box in the shape of a shoe reminds the visitor of the early practice.

### **Seal Island**

Pleasure trips to Seal Island and its population of about 2 000 seals.  
*Information:* Romanza. Call (04441) 3101.

### **Sport and Recreation**

Cruises of the bay, moonlight cruises and private parties may be arranged. Boats may be hired at any time of the day or night. Excellent opportunities for fishing, swimming, golf, bowls, tennis and yachting.

### **Tourist Information**

The Town Clerk  
PO Box 25  
Mossel Bay  
6500  
Call (04441) 2043

### **Annual Events**

#### **Everything that Floats, Wilderness:**

April

**Knysna Festival:** June to 1st July

**East-West Hobie Challenge,** Mossel

Bay: July

**Outeniqua Agricultural Show:**

October

**Rubber Power Boat Competition,**

**Wilderness:** 31 Dec. or 1 Jan.

**Zwartulei New Year Regatta:**

December



TSITSIKAMMA COASTAL NATIONAL PARK

# The Long Kloof

The verdant valleys of the Long Kloof to the north of the Tsitsikamma and Outeniqua mountain ranges are renowned for their delicious apples; they also produce pears, peaches, plums, oranges and grapes. Agricultural endeavours include sheep, angora goat, cattle and ostrich farming and the production of grain.

Majestic mountains and valleys characterise a region blessed with a temperate climate and a host of scenic surprises. It is an area of transition, where proteas and a wide variety of indigenous wild flowers typical of the 'fynbos' of the Cape, gradually yield to the hardier shrubs of the Little Karoo.

## Uniondale

May be reached from Avontuur along the road through the scenic *Uniondale Poort*. Several English forts on the hills surrounding the town serve as testimony to the important role Uniondale played in the Anglo-Boer War. The old watermill has the largest water-wheel in the country.

## Avontuur

The terminal of the narrow gauge railway from Port Elizabeth. The *Apple*

*Express* transports goods to Avontuur but passengers may only travel as far as *Loerie* (see p.48).

## Krakeel River

This farming community dates from 1709. A lovely walking trail leads to the *Formosa Peak*, the highest point in the Tsitsikamma range yielding a magnificent view of the surrounding area, Plettenberg Bay and the Indian Ocean.

## Louterwater

A research institute for farming methods and apple production. Wayside stalls sell fresh fruit, juice and dried fruit.

## Joubertina

Centre for the apple producing region, next to the Waboom River. The town's Dutch Reformed Church dates from 1908 and is built of stone with solid yellowwood pews. Interesting day walks in and around the town. *Information:* the Town Clerk: call (04272) 36.

## Tweerivieren

A pleasant farming community with historic farmsteads, old oak trees and

a variety of agricultural produce ranging from fruit to ostriches.

## Kareedouw

An agricultural and timber centre, the eastern entrance to the Longkloof and the start of the Tsitsikamma Forest. The mountain slopes are covered with wild flowers. Stinkwood furniture is made here.

## Humansdorp

Founded in 1849. An agricultural centre serving the St Francis Bay resorts.

## Hankey

A quaint town known for a mountain called the *CocksComb* and the beautiful *Yellowwoods Picnic Area* nearby, where visitors may relax in beautiful surroundings.

## Loerie

Passenger terminal of the *Apple Express*. Lies within the fruit producing region of the Long Kloof.

## Annual Events

Uniondale Show  
January  
Longkloof Farmers Day  
October

## Tourist Information

George Publicity Association  
PO Box 1109  
George  
6530  
Call (0441) 742271.



THE LONG KLOOF IS AN IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL AREA



FRESHLY PICKED FRUIT IS SOLD AT ROADSIDE STALLS



# Fishing in the Eastern Cape

## Fishing Licences

**Sea Angling:** freely allowed except for certain restrictions (see below). Radio Algoa broadcasts useful information on fishing and tidal conditions in a daily 06h00 programme 'What's on', and on Fridays at 07h00 in the programme 'Stywe Lyne'. Along the Southern Cape Coast the angler will find a plentiful number of species in turbulent white water, in sandy gullies, off beaches and in deep water. While white steenbras and red roman run all year round, some species such as kabeljou, musselcracker and elf are seasonal. Along the entire coast the following restrictions and open seasons apply:

**Crayfish:** open season November to June. Limited to 5 per day. Permit essential.

**Snoek:** open season from December to July.

**Oysters:** strictly closed season from 1 December to 5 January. Limited to 25 per day, provided they cannot be passed through a 50 mm ring.

**Fresh Water Fishing:** all fresh water anglers require permits. Contact Eastern Province Freshwater

Conservancy. Call (041) 42 2021 for information, permits and licences. Licences renewable annually, currently at a fee of R1,00. Obtainable from local magistrates' offices, those of the Receiver of Revenue, and most sports shops stocking fishing tackle.

The following restrictions and open seasons apply:

**Trout:** open season: 1 September to 1 June. Permit required.

**Black Bass:** year round open season. All freshwater fish limited to 10 a day. Penalties for exceeding bait restrictions and fish size are severe. A comprehensive pamphlet dealing with all regulations concerning fishing is available from:

The Chief Director  
Branch Marine Development  
Private Bag X2  
Roggebaai  
8012

Call (021) 21 6290.

**Trout Fishing:** only artificial, non-spinning (trout) flies may be used, along with a rod and reel. Fixed spool reels are prohibited. A trout licence costs R8,00 per annum, renewable on 1 July. Further information concerning trout fishing available from:

Eastern Province Freshwater Angling Society  
L5 Dumant Park  
Summerstrand  
Port Elizabeth  
6000  
Call (041) 54 7131. Ask for Mr Pitt.

## Information and Advice on Travel in the Cape

For contact addresses see back page. Also consult your local *Publicity Association* for additional information and advice.

**Drive carefully.  
Keep South Africa beautiful.**



SUNRISE, STORMS RIVER MOUTH

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South Africa  
 Eastern Cape, border  
 and the garden route



**satoer-satour**

## South African Tourism Board

Your nearest South African Tourism Board office will give you additional advice on all aspects of travel in South Africa.

### Head office:

#### South Africa (Head Office)

Menlyn Park Office Block  
Cnr Aterbury Road and  
Menlyn Drive  
Private Bag X164  
Pretoria 0001  
Tel. (012) 47 1131/348 9521  
Tel. Add:  
SATOURIST PRETORIA  
Telex: 3 20457 SA

### Regional Offices:

#### Bloemfontein

Second Floor  
Penbel Building  
29 Elizabeth Street  
P.O. Box 3515  
Bloemfontein 9300  
Tel. (051) 7 1362  
Telex: 26 7919 SA

#### Cape Town

Shop 16  
Piazza Level 3  
Golden Acre  
Private Bag X9108  
Cape Town 8000  
Tel. (021) 21 6274  
Telex: 5 24592 SA

#### Durban

Suite 520  
Southern Life Centre  
320 West Street  
P.O. Box 2516  
Durban 4000  
Tel. (031) 304 7144  
Telex: 6 21205 SA

#### East London

Fourth Floor  
N.E.S. Building  
Terminus Street  
P.O. Box 1794  
East London 5200  
Tel. (0431) 2 6410  
Telex: 25 0561 SA

#### George

124 York Street  
P.O. Box 312  
George 6530  
Tel. (0441) 5228  
Telex: 5 24646 SA

#### Jan Smuts Airport

International Arrivals Hall  
Jan Smuts Airport 1627  
Tel. (011) 970 1669  
Telex: 430146 SA

#### Johannesburg

Suite 3611  
Carlton Centre  
P.O. Box 1094  
Johannesburg 2000  
Tel. (011) 331 5241  
Telex: 4 89281 SA

#### Kimberley

Suite 311  
Trust Centre  
Jones Street  
Private Bag X5017  
Kimberley 8300  
Tel. (0531) 3 1434/2 2657  
Telex: 28 0510 SA

#### Nelspruit

Ground Floor  
Joshua Doore Centre  
Cnr Louis Trichardt and  
Paul Kruger Streets  
P.O. Box 679  
Nelspruit 1200  
Tel. (01311) 2 3443/2 4165  
Telex: 4 30015 SA

#### Pietersburg

Cnr Vorster and  
Landdros Maré Streets  
P.O. Box 2814  
Pietersburg 0700  
Tel. (01521) 3025  
Telex: 3 21851 SA

#### Port Elizabeth

310 Mutual Building  
Mutual Arcade  
64 Main Street  
P.O. Box 1161  
Port Elizabeth 6000  
Tel. (041) 2 7761  
Telex: 24 3504 SA

#### Pretoria

Shop 153  
Nedbank Plaza  
Beatrix Street  
P.O. Box 26500  
Arcadia 0007  
Tel. (012) 28 7154/5  
Telex: 32 1228 SA

### International offices:

#### Europe

##### United Kingdom and Eire

Regency House  
1-4 Warwick Street  
London W1R 5WB  
Tel. (1) 439 9661  
Tel. Add:  
SATOUR LONDON W1  
Telex: 298946

##### Germany

D-6 Frankfurt/Main 1  
Alemannia-Haus  
An der Hauptwache 11  
Postfach 4148  
Tel. (69) 20656  
Telex: 4189252

##### France

9 Boulevard de la Madeleine  
75001 Paris  
Tel. (1) 261 8230  
Telex: 230090

##### Netherlands, Belgium and Scandinavia

Parnassustoren  
Locatellikade 1, 7e etage,  
1076 AZ Amsterdam  
Tel. (20) 64 6201  
Telex: 15716

##### Italy and Greece

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